

RG 104, 8NS-104-94-077
Box 5

8NS-104-94-077, Miscellaneous
Correspondence & Memos, 1897-1994

Employee Newsletters - March 1955 - Dec 1975

Pen

JANUARY 1953

PUBLIC EMPLOYEES NEWS



Luck and Success

William L. Tryon

FICTION

- BRINKLEY SNEDAKER AND THE TRUCK 12
John C. De Witt

ARTICLES

- MONEY-MAKING 4
Billie Mayo Eschenburg
- HE HUNTS MOUNTAIN LIONS 20
Alice Spencer Cook

SHORTS

- LUCK AND SUCCESS 2
William L. Tryon

MONTHLY FEATURES

- IT HAPPENED THIS WAY 3
- JERRY KLUTTZ WATCHES WASHINGTON 8
- YOUR HEALTH 17
Edward Westcott, M.D.
- MOVIE MENU 18
Arthur Pierson
- EDITORIAL 19
George N. Spencer

EDITORIAL STAFF

GEORGE N. SPENCER
V. VAN HUMMELL HOWARD
DONALD W. PETERSON

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS OF F.P.E.A.

TREASURY DEPT.: George N. Spencer, Denver, Colo.; PRESIDENT; Eugene A. Hudson, Birmingham, Ala.; Chas. E. Winey, La Mesa, Calif.

DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE: William W. Crawford, Denver, Colo.; Dr. Thomas V. Coe, Phoenix, Ariz.

POST OFFICE DEPT.: Vincent M. Mangone, Denver, Colo.; VICE PRESIDENT; A. H. Maage, Denver, Colo.; SECRETARY; Arthur A. McIver, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Stanley Ciborowski, Denver Colo.

DEPT. OF INTERIOR: L. R. Smith, Denver, Colo.

CITY DIVISION: W. M. McGraw, Denver, Colo.; J. Rex Fleming, Denver, Colo.

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION: D. T. Coker, East Point, Ga.

Published monthly by the Federal Postal Employees Association, Box 2451, Denver 1, Colorado. Entered in the Denver Post Office as second class matter April 20, 1926, under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscriptions \$1 per year.



"LUCK! LUCK! Some people have all the good luck while adversity continually haunts me." Undoubtedly, you have heard similar disgruntled remarks many times. Is it true that Dame Fortune smiles warmly on some people and the next moment turns a frigid frown on others? The records of the lives of great men seem to indicate that God is no respecter of persons. Many of the world's greatest men had humble beginnings. From the obscurity of a lowly birth and life in a log cabin, Abraham Lincoln rose to the height of human power and eternal fame. His career was guided by unerring wisdom. He was no accident. The political wisdom of the century was embodied in his life. His oratory is the voice of humanity.

A Spanish proverb says, "Luck comes to those who look after it." "Luck meets a fool, but he seizes it not," says a German. If there is any such thing as luck, then wisdom and labor are its parents; for only wisdom can see opportunities and only labor can use them.

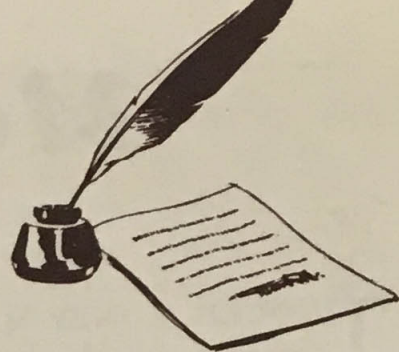
Bernard Palissy, the celebrated potter, spent the labor of years and much substance in seeking a way to produce enamel. During the final experiment he worked six days and nights without sleep at the furnace. He knew that ultimate victory was within his grasp, and with the supply of fuel being exhausted, he pitched into the furnace his garden palings, his household furniture, shelves and doors. "Poor crazy fool," said his wife and neighbors. But the great heat produced the enamel, and now Palissy was a "child of fortune." Wisdom and labor had made him great.

Wishful thinking and an attitude of inertia while awaiting Dame Fortune to bring success, usually ends up in frustration and a bad case of ulcers.

There seems to be no short-cut or magic formula to attain success. Bernard Baruch during a recent interview gave some sound advice when he said, "Don't bellyache. Get out and work — this country will pull you through."

It Happened This Way . . .

Members, co-workers, family and friends . . . send your stories concerning Public Service to Dept. MC, Box 2451, Denver, Colo. PEN pays 3¢ per published word. Let's all share your experiences.



AS PRINCIPAL of my school, I had given the first grade teacher instructions to have each first grade child bring his birth certificate as proof that he is of the required age to enter school. The teacher had difficulty in getting the birth certificate of one little girl who came from a family of 14 children. Finally, as a last resort she wrote to the child's mother explaining that she must have the birth certificate or she would be compelled to dismiss the child from school. In reply, the mother wrote:

"Dear Teacher,

I do not have a birth certificate for my little girl, but she is bound to be six years old, for I have six children at home younger than she is.

Mrs. B - - -"

Richard C. Dunn

✦ ✦ ✦

A USED car dealer in the city put an ad in the newspaper offering to deduct \$10 for each child of a car buyer. He stipulated that the buyer must bring the child or children along when he came to pick out the car. The dealer hoped in this way to encourage families whose funds were somewhat limited to buy his cars.

A rural mail carrier saw the ad in the paper and it appealed to him. He drove into town with his wife and ten children, ranging in age from one to thirteen years. When the used car dealer saw the family he was flabber-gasted; but he was as good as his ad.

The rural mail carrier picked out a 1936 car priced at \$95. With the license and title transfer, the deal came to \$103. The mail carrier paid the used car dealer \$3 and the family drove back home in two cars.

Bert Morehouse

THE LOBBY of our postal station was bristling with activity when a lady and her little daughter walked in. Taking their place in line, the tot soon became restless and began to explore the office, as children do.

The mother had just reached my window when she heard a familiar voice exclaim rather loudly, "Mother, Mother, there's Daddy, there's Daddy's picture."

There, in the center of the lobby, the child was pointing her little finger at the huge framed galaxy of WANTED characters, individuals sought by the F.B.I. and postal inspectors.

The patrons and observing personnel guffawed, the child was puzzled, and mom was visibly embarrassed.

Murray M. Baron

✦ ✦ ✦

A FEW years ago when my husband and I were teaching Eskimos on the lower Yukon River, our District Superintendent stopped by one evening, and among other things told us about his experiences checking freight shipments.

It seems a bull was shipped to the Bethel Station and he had signed the freight bills for "One bull and ten bales of hay."

An efficient agent in the Seattle office wrote him a curt letter saying: "Employees in the field simply must stop signing freight bills for freight they never receive. I know you did not receive TEN bales of hay for I personally opened one bale on the dock here in Seattle to feed that bull, before the boat left."

The superintendent wrote back, "Sorry to disagree with you, but I am sure I did receive one bull and ten bales of hay. Four of those bales might have been in the bull, but if they were, then I reckon I received them right along with the bull."

Inez E. Moore

MONEY-MAKING

Billie Mayo Eschenburg

THOUGH MONEY-MAKING is a prime interest in the world today, few people are actually familiar with the processes by which it is created, valued and placed in the public use. The minting of the coins that jingle so reassuringly in one's pocket is one of Uncle Sam's most successful businesses.

Three Mints, located in Philadelphia, San Francisco and Denver, supply the entire demands of the United States. They operate as individual institutions under the administrative control of the United States Bureau of the Mint which is an integral part of the United States Treasury Department and not to be confused with the Bureau of Printing and Engraving where our paper money is made.

For the past twenty years the direction of the Bureau of the Mint has been in the capable hands of the charming, soft-spoken Mrs. Nellie Tayloe Ross, past Governor of Wyoming. Appointed first in 1933, Mrs. Ross has served devotedly during the tremendous expansion and modernization of Uncle Sam's money-making business. In April of this year, she looks forward to a well deserved retirement, but with a touch of the melancholy at the thought of leaving the vast numbers of co-workers and employees who have made her twenty years in the Mint such a great success.

Curiously enough, few people know that the United States also makes coins for other countries. For example, during World War II, thirteen express cars of Australian and Philippine money were shipped to their respective

countries by the United States. In 1949 an order for fifteen million silver dollars was filled for the Chinese Nationalists, and in that same year three million SUN YAT SEN dollars were minted.

Nor is it generally known that in 1945 Leland F. Howard, Assistant Director of the Bureau of the Mint, Theodore Schierecke, Assistant Superintendent of M&R at the New York Assay Office, and John D. Jamieson, Superintendent of Building and Machinery of the Denver Mint, were loaned to the U. S. Army and given the task of making an inventory of gold bullion and moneys held in the Reich bank in Frankfurt, Germany.

Of the three coinage mints in the United States, Philadelphia holds the dignified position of being the oldest and largest in point of space and number of coinage presses. Here also are made medals and awards for the Armed Services as well as all coinage dies for all of the mints. Until World War II, San Francisco rated second in size, with Denver trailing third.

In 1934, with the first rumblings of war, it was deemed advisable for many billions of gold bullion to be moved inland for safety's sake. Consequently, in the fall of that year Denver was on the receiving end of one of the largest movements of gold in world history, when two and one-half billions in precious bricks were transferred from the San Francisco Mint.

It took seventy-five mail cars on twenty-five separate trains to make the shift, and it was indeed an eloquent

example of the Post Office Department and the Treasury Department working hand-in-hand with western railroads.

Shipped by Parcel Post, the charges for the movement amounted to \$547,-695.00. Despite the tremendous task and risk involved (each railroad car held approximately twenty-five million dollars), the project was so well guarded by Federal soldiers, Postal Inspectors, Secret Service Agents, railroad detectives and local police that it was completed, mint to mint, without a black mark on the record.

Today, as a result of the constantly increasing demand for more coins and storage space, the Denver Mint has expanded and developed into the largest and most modern from the standpoint of coin production and of money and bullion stored. Denver was chosen for the major expansion since its location was more centrally located for supplying the mid-section of the nation, but more so because it was the only place where sufficient space was readily available adjacent to facilities already in operation.

Each year the three mints manufacture a veritable mountain of shining coins. This is attested to in the production record for the fiscal year from July 1, 1951, to June 30, 1952, which totaled 1,062,000,000 cents, 76,000,000 nickels, 260,000,000 dimes, 95,000,000 quarters, and 56,000,000 half-dollars. The output varies from year to year, however, according to the demand.

At the Denver Mint, where 60% of the coins are manufactured, the eleven individual sections of operation are divided into two major divisions. These are Melting and Refining and Coining.

The Melting and Refining Division

divides its coin operation into three sections—Make-up, Ingot Melting and Transfer Weighing. The Make-up varies according to the type of coin being made, the various alloys being: Cents 95% copper plus 5% zinc and tin, Nickels are 25% nickel and 75% copper and all silver coins are 90% silver and 10% copper. The exact proportioning of the metals in the various alloys is done by careful weighing of furnace melts and usually consist of two-thirds virgin metal and one-third old material which is normally made up from scrap of the many melting and coinage operations. Occasionally, however, old coins which are removed from circulation are returned to the mint and hacked up to be melted and recoined.

Carefully weighed and compiled in the above described proportions, the make-up melts are charged into electric furnaces. Here, the metal, covered with powdered charcoal to prevent oxidation, is melted and poured at definitely prescribed temperatures through a runner box for controlling the direction and rate of flow, into large water-cooled molds. The furnace is mechanically tilted for pouring by means of hydraulic hoists actuated by lever controls. The molten metal in the molds solidifies in a few seconds, after which it is removed by means of overhead crane hoists, cooled in water, topped to remove the shrink head, de-finned, brushed and stamped with the particular melt number. The raw ingot thus produced is twelve inches wide, one and three-quarters inches thick and five feet long and weighs in excess of 400 pounds.

Raw ingots are then transferred to the Coining Division which divides its operations into eight sections: Rolling

and Cutting, Annealing and Cleaning, Upsetting, Reviewing, Automatic Scales, Process Weighing, Coin Press and Counting.

In the Rolling and Cutting room, the raw ingot receives 12 to 15 passes through an eighteen-inch breakdown rolling mill which exerts terrific pressures in reducing it to a thickness of one-quarter of an inch while increasing the length to 35 feet. The rolled strip is then transferred to the eighteen-inch finishing mill where it is reduced to the desired gauge in 6 or 8 passes, and takes on a smooth, bright finish. The strip is coiled in an upcoiler in all passes through this mill. Finished coils are up to 225 feet long and are delivered by crane to the slitter where each coil is slit lengthwise into two strips, the edges trimmed, and the slit strips recoiled into rings for feeding into the punch presses.

The four high-speed punch presses which press out the blank coins are each capable of producing in excess of 2500 blanks per minute, or a total of approximately 5,000,000 blanks per day for the four machines combined.

From the punch presses the blanks are first annealed in gas-fired annealing furnaces to soften them. They are then cleaned, polished, rinsed and dried. The edges of the blanks are then upset in upsetting mills to prepare them to take the impression of the coinage dies, particularly the border.

Before the upset blanks are sent to the coining presses, they are spread out on slowly moving belts and closely scrutinized for any imperfections. All defective pieces are removed and returned to the Make-up room.

Stamping of the blanks into coin is done in the Coin Press Section which is equipped with 22 presses of the

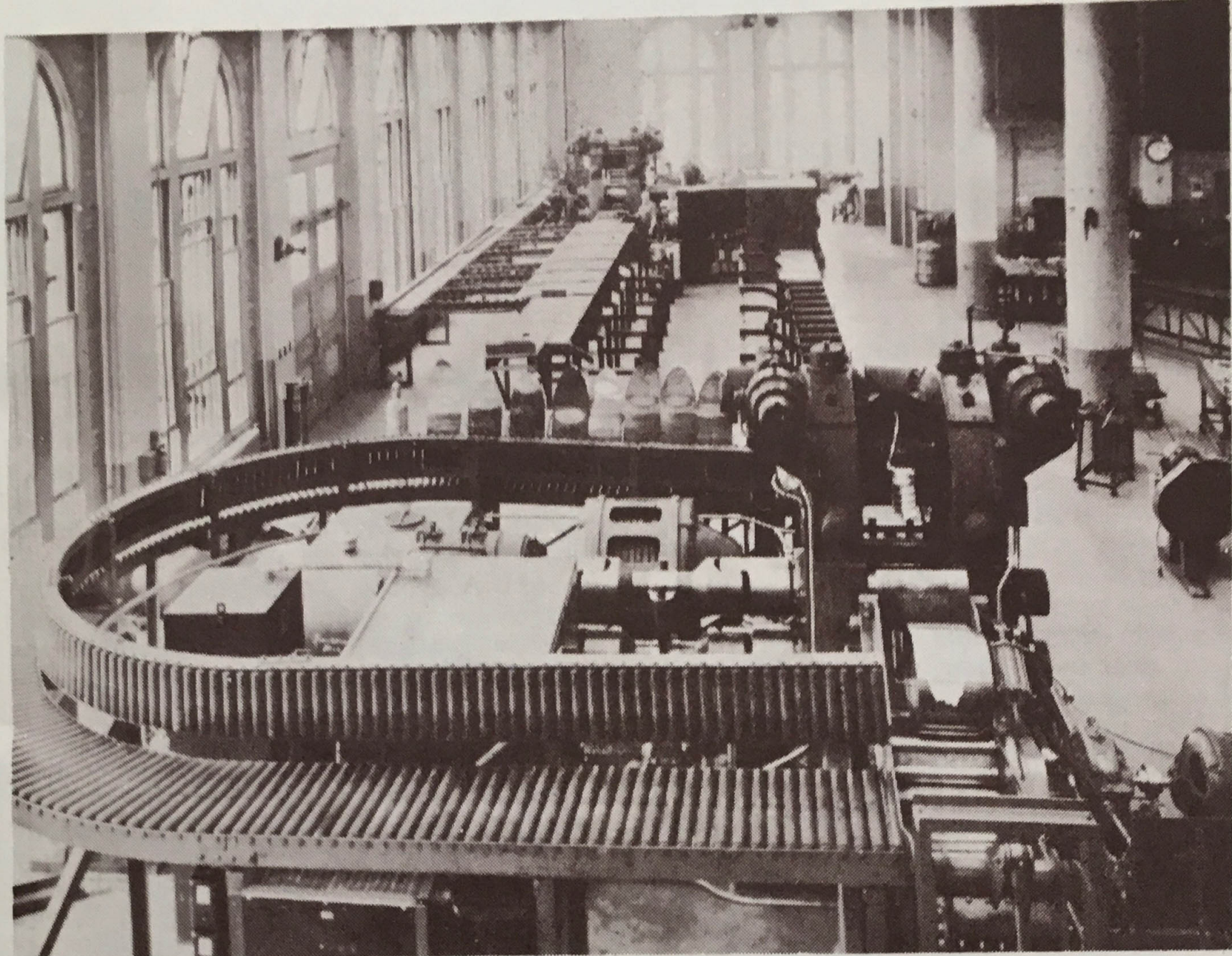
Mint's own design. Cents, nickels and dimes are stamped two at a time, while the larger coins are stamped singly. Each coin, regardless of denomination, is stamped head and tails at the same time. Coin presses operating on dual stamping can produce 260 coins per minute.

The finished coins are then counted, weighed and sacked — cents in the amount of \$50, nickels \$200, and all silver denominations in \$1000. The bags are then weighed again, tagged and delivered to the Cashier's vault for shipping. All coin finds its way into circulation exclusively through the Federal Reserve Banks.

In spite of this complicated process, Uncle Sam still makes a profit on his money-making. One pound of cents (not "pennies," since there is no such coin in the U. S. Coinage System. The denomination being strictly referred to as a cent) numbers 145 and is worth \$1.45. The manufacturing cost and cost of the metal is only 41¢ — or a profit of \$1.04 per pound. There is even a greater profit in the manufacture of nickels. Ninety nickels, which weigh one pound, are worth \$4.50, but the cost of manufacturing and metal is only 58¢, or a gain of \$3.92.

Since there is much talk these days of reducing the expense of government by lowering expenditures and cutting waste, it is important that the people know that the U. S. Bureau of the Mint has been doing this very thing for many years. For example, the cost of labor alone since 1946 has risen 70%, and in that same period of time the Mint has reduced the cost of overall operation by at least 19%.

Waste is virtually unknown in each of the mints. The Denver Mint goes to great lengths to reclaim every



A partial view of some of the machinery in the Rolling and Cutting Room of the Denver Mint.

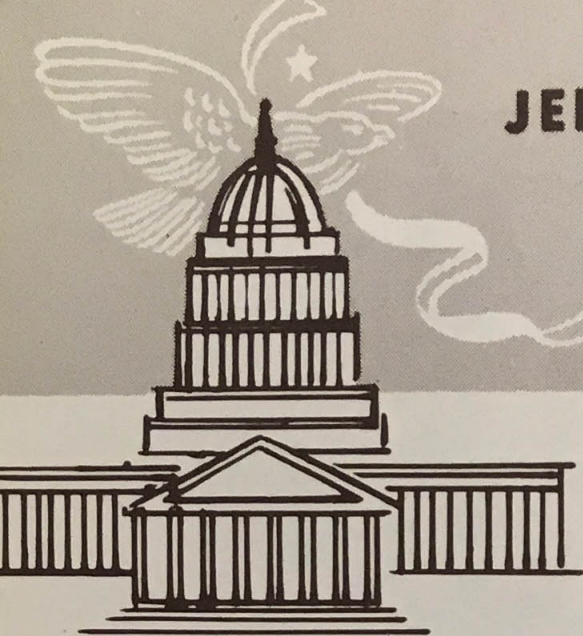
particle of valuable dust that might otherwise escape never to be reclaimed.

In 1936, when some of the walls and floors were dismantled to make way for new construction and enlarging of the storage vaults, approximately \$67,000 in gold sweeps was recovered. The dust had adhered to the walls, floor and machinery throughout the years despite the fact that the operating rooms and each piece of equipment receive a specially processed scouring each day.

Further precautions are taken in the refinery where the employees change their work clothes in locker rooms, shower and then don their own clothes which have been untouched since their arrival that morning. Periodically the

work clothes, rags and even accumulated waste papers from lunches are burned, thus recovering a surprising amount of valuable metal dust contained therein. Even water from the refinery showers and basins flows into a large tank which is periodically cleaned out and the residue is added to the "sweeps" which amounts to several thousand dollars each year.

It is an undeniable fact that the U. S. Bureau of the Mint operates at a great profit to Uncle Sam, but unlike other businesses, none of the profits can be used to pay any of the operating expenses — all profits and savings are transferred to the general fund of the Treasury of the United States and expended elsewhere in budgets.



JERRY KLUTTZ

watches washington

GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION ... political patronage ... tight budgets ... new personnel policies ... retirement-social security study ... a new slate of bosses with many new ideas.

Those are just a few of the many Federal employe developments you'll be hearing a great deal more about in the early days of the new Eisenhower administration.

You, the Federal employe, must be a realist and expect many revolutionary proposals to be made and to be debated. But here's a bit of advice from one who has observed the Washington scene for many years—many recommendations for changes are made but only a few of them are enacted into the law of the land. So, you can discount many of the ideas and suggestions that will be made.

General Eisenhower, the President-elect, is committed to a reorganization of Federal agencies to bring about a higher degree of efficiency and economy. He has a committee of top-notch citizens working up reorganization plans for him. He has said his No. 1 legislative goal is an extension of the President's authority to initiate plans to reorganize Federal agencies.

I'm confident that many of the plans that will be proposed will directly affect Federal employes, along these lines as examples:

(1) That Federal agencies be given greater authority to recruit and hire people under job standards laid down and enforced by the Civil Service Commission;

(2) That the pay of the great majority of postal and classified employes be fixed by area wage boards, similar to the system now used to set the salaries of the 900,000 wage board, or per diems, employes;

(3) A revival of the plan voted down in the last session of congress to place all postmaster jobs under full and complete Civil Service;

(4) Elimination of the personnel riders to money bills such as the Thomas Take-it-or-lose-it annual leave rider; the Whitten rider which has fouled up the Government's personnel operations, and the Jensen rider which arbitrarily causes to be abolished many jobs as they are vacated; and,

(5) A general modification of veterans' preference in many respects. Agency-wise, the reorganizers will come up with plans aimed at Veterans Administration, Defense Department, Federal Security, Interior, Agriculture and Post Office among others.

On the political patronage front, most Republicans are disappointed at the relatively small number of Federal jobs that are in that category. A count shows that only 170,000 of the 2,400,000 Federal jobs in this country are outside the Civil Service system.

But that doesn't mean that the 170,000 are all patronage jobs. Far from it. Included in the 170,000 are agencies that have excellent merit systems of their own such as the FBI, Atomic Energy and Tennessee Valley, some 30,000 jobs in all. These jobs are as safe from the patronage raiders as those of Civil Service, if not more so. A majority of the remaining 140,000 are temporary, part-time, and seasonal jobs of one kind or another, jobs which aren't eagerly sought after in these days of full employment.

Meantime, we have threats being shouted from Capitol Hill to make deep cuts in the budget and to wipe out funds for several hundred thousand Federal jobs. Some cuts must be expected.

We also have a study being made of the fiscal condition of the Civil Service retirement system, along with a comparison of Civil Service and Social Security benefits. The study committee is headed by Eliot Kaplan of New York, an expert in the Civil Service field. His report and recommendations won't be made for another 8 to 10 months.



PEACE

PROGRESS

PROSPERITY

A TRIUMPHANT New Year, fulfilling the brightest hopes and the greatest aspirations for the entire world and for all Federal Postal Employees Association members and their families is the sincere and most fervent wish of

The Board of Directors

The Staff of F.P.E.A.

The Editors of PEN

Resolutely let us face the New Year together with renewed intentions dedicated to the purpose of a greater good for all.

The life and fate of the world is in the hands of us, the human family. The challenge is ours to elevate the progress of civilization. It is our heritage and opportunity to make our individual contribution to life, each in his own way and from his own place. The future affords work of great importance that *we must do*.

You may say that the aim of public service is only an ideal, only an intangible, but in this world ideals are weapons, intangibles are armaments.

Our American homes and cities have been built, not only of wood, brick and stone, but of the fabric of a dream, envisioned and vitalized by each generation in its turn — the American dream of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

Superficially, it may seem as if our world were devoted to destruction. A deeper view shows that in reality this is an era of shaping the foundations for better government, of forging new tools, of making new ways for better life. Science in all its fields through industry and government are developing these ways with breath-taking speed. Can any of us prophesy the future airplane, the railroad, the automobile? Can any of us envision radio or television in the year 2000? Yet there are men among us working on such prophesies and visions, turning them into tangible reality. These developments will bring all of us fresh responsibilities. The accomplishment of which will be a part of our program for the years ahead.

Whether these future developments bring an era when power is transmitted by air-waves, or captured from the atom; whether seas are spanned in a few hours; no matter what the evolution of man's imaginations and achievements, the Federal Postal Employees Association believes on the basis of its accomplishments during the past 27 years, that its services in the future will be even more far reaching in its benefits to the public employees.

To this cause we dedicate ourselves in this great New Year.

WHAT A GOVERNMENT JOB MEANS TO ME

B. Bernarr Vance



THE SIXTH prize winner, Mr. B. Bernarr Vance, was born July 23, 1905. At the age of 18, Mr. Vance began his career as a teacher in a one-room school in Highland County, Ohio. He eventually attained degrees of Bachelor of Science and Master of Arts from Miami University and University of Minnesota. He will soon receive a Doctorate in Education.

At the present time, Mr. Vance is Chairman of the Science Department at Daniel Kiser High School in Dayton, Ohio, and also serves occasionally as an instructor in Biology and Education at the University of Dayton, Sinclair College and Wittenberg College.

He has co-authored several school science books and has published one book under his name alone for the Cancer Society of Montgomery County, Ohio.

Besides his busy schedule as a teacher, Mr. Vance has found time to travel extensively through the Western Hemisphere while indulging in his particular interest — color slide photography, and also serving as Assistant Editor-in-Chief of *The American Biology Teacher* — the official journal of the National Association of Biology Teachers, of which he is a co-founder and charter member.

HAS THE IDEA ever occurred to you as it has to me that, as a public employee, I am really self-employed — a vital thread in the intricate warp and woof of the greatest business on earth, The United States of America —, and one of its principal Directors and stockholders? Yes, I am my own boss, I work for myself and, as part-owner and operator of my own business, I have a personal responsibility to see that it functions in the best interests of myself and my neighbors, is a profitable venture, and looks forward to a sound and prosperous future.

Few people realize, when they speak or write critically of what "the government" does or does not do, deride it, and magnify its mistakes, that they are really criticizing themselves. In this great land of ours, we *are* the government, and its mistakes are our mistakes, collectively and individually. Such an

organization is no better and no worse than the people, you and I, who make up its structure, sponsor its activities, and guide its future. It is true that others than you and I may actually formulate its policies, direct its broad functions, and collect and disburse the funds in its treasury. However, each of us has the power to help determine who these people shall be, and what they shall and shall not do, through the free ballot which is the foundation of our democratic society. Whether we rightly use, misuse, or disregard this great privilege is entirely a matter of our own choice; we also have the right and privilege to do either of the latter without suffering directly any personal rebuke or harm. In all too many countries today the citizenry is told how to "vote," the political philosophy and internal and international policies are dictated to them,

and the people are only puppets performing on strings manipulated by the often bloody fingers of political dictators and demagogues.

Abraham Lincoln expressed this idea aptly when he voiced the fervent hope "that government of the people, by the people, for the people shall not perish from the earth," in his classic literary miniature delivered at the dedication of The Gettysburg National Cemetery. Government *by* the people means self-government. If we allow dictators and demagogues to rule us, we are lax in our obligations and duties. Government *of* the people means that out of our midst can and must come our representatives and our judicial and executive officers. Any one of us can and should aspire to a high place in government service, if we are capable and willing to work hard enough to make such a worthy ambition come true. The great Lincoln, born in a backwoods cabin, is a potent example that this is true and possible. Government *for* the people means that the functions and activities of our government must and should be of benefit to all citizens. If they are not, it is within our power to make them so.

But a political philosophy such as ours, the most advanced, potentially workable, livable, and enjoyable of any nurtured by mankind through the long centuries of his trying to alleviate the excruciating travail of man's inhumanity to man, cannot long exist or prosper unless there is intelligent, personally-dedicated, free-thinking and inspired followership as well as leadership. Herein lies my specific charge and sacred responsibility, as an employee of our unique free public school system, to the youth of our land.

Of course, the business we are in as public employees is not perfect. Human nature being what it is, at our present stage of civilization, makes perfection a practical impossibility. There are some crooks in government service, there are incompetents and shirkers, and there are "empire-builders" — any business enterprise or corporation so large and diverse would have like problems. But, for the most part, government workers are capable, honest, loyal, zealous, and effective. Joseph B. Trainer, Sales Manager of The Roller Bearing Company of America, recently described his experiences in dealing with government agencies as follows:

"Working out the R B C expansion program with government agencies — over the last few months was an extremely interesting experience. It was not too different, however, from selling bearings to a large corporation. The federal government, of course, is larger than any corporation, so that a little more patient persistence is required. The men who staff the agencies, however, are competent, conscientious and, in some cases, overworked. They seem to react just like our customers, and are happy to cooperate with the man who has something sound to offer. We have never run into a buyer or an engineer looking for a bribe; for all the talk of mink coats, we met no one in Washington who has his hand out."

Many of our young men and women have kept a rendezvous with death, on their beloved home soil or on far-flung battlefields, to preserve and prosper our great democratic heritage, and to proudly display for the whole world to see their supreme confidence in its

(continued on page 23)



Outside, the dentist claimed he could see nothing wrong and urged an office visit.

Brinkley Snedaker and the Truck

John C. De Witt

BRINKLEY SNEDAKER found his prospective father-in-law in the south field. Mr. New was cultivating his corn. Since the day was hot and the flies were bad, Mr. New was not in good temper.

"If you came over to go to work," he told Brink shortly, "I'll give you a job. But if you aim to promote one of your fly-by-night schemes at my expense, you can be on your way." He turned back to the cultivator. "I got work to do."

Brink grinned, but his heart wasn't in it. It was a sore point that Mr.

New refused to trust him. Under the circumstances one could only keep on trying to convince the other.

He said, "I've got a business proposition, Mr. New. I need a pickup truck by tomorrow morning. Figure I can make a profit hauling produce that will more than pay for the truck. Figured I could borrow the money from you."

"Now see here, Brink," Mr. New roared, "you're the last man I'd loan money to. A man that lives by his wits always ends up in trouble. You're going to find that out for yourself."

Deciding to overwhelm his pros-

pective father-in-law with sheer logic, Brink said, "Look, I'm planning to marry Elizabeth just as soon as you give your consent. After the marriage you and I should be partners. Seemed like a fair thing to give you the benefits early. Now about the truck — I furnish the brains, you furnish the money. We split the profit —."

"No!! I said I'd give my consent on the marriage when you found a job and went to work." He swatted at the swarm of flies which buzzed about his face. His sunken jaws shook with the effort. "I'm not financing any schemes."

"You always do — in the end," Brink reminded him. "If you'd lend me the money, I could pay it back with interest. But if you won't lend it, I've got to figure a way to make you pay anyway. In that case, you don't get it back. Always hate to do that to my prospective father-in-law."

"No," Mr. New said again. "You get no money out of me, Brinkley Snedaker. I know you need money." His eyes narrowed. "I'll be on my guard. This time you'll go to work and earn it. I'll see to that."

Brink sighed. His brain had never failed him yet. He would think of something. But what a pity that Mr. New should be so obstinate in refusing to see that a man could work his brain as well as his back. It was going to be hard to cook up an honest scheme whereby Mr. New would pay him cash in accordance with the terms of an agreement yet to be made at a time when Mr. New was promising to have no dealings with him whatever.

Time now to attempt a modicum of sociability. He would want to take his departure on good terms. He said, "You break your teeth, Mr. New?"

Mr. New snorted. "Doc Ingram claims my jaws shrunk," he snapped. "The teeth he made me last summer won't stay in place. He wants four hundred dollars to make me a new set. I claim if he was real sharp he could fix up the old one for less than a quarter of that."

Brink nodded, and wished his storehouse of useful items might by some miracle have included a set of false teeth exactly to Mr. New's jaws. The shed behind Brink's house contained row after row of useful items acquired in the past for a particular job. Each item was tagged with date of purchase, price and use. A quick, mental inventory of the shed's contents turned up nothing that could be adapted to the chewing of food except a quarter-ton hammer mill. He discarded the possibility of converting that to any substitute for false teeth.

"Well," he said sadly, "I made my offer, Mr. New. Only thing left now is for me to go see Benson Barron and make a deal with him."

"Yah," said Mr. New with satisfaction, knowing full well that Benson Barron's unalterable terms were cash on the barrelhead, "you go make a deal with Bence."

At Barron's General Store Brink ran into a stone wall. Bence's narrow eyes closed completely when Brink explored the possibility of renting a truck, or buying one on deferred payments, or hiring Bence himself to do the profitable hauling job he had lined up. Bence waited on several customers before even showing Brink a second-hand rig which he would sell for one hundred fifty dollars. And he accented the word *cash* when he quoted the price.

"Tell you what, Bence," Brink sug-

gested. "I got quite a few items in my shed you could make a nice profit on. You come out and take a look —"

"I'm goin' nowheres," said Bence. "I'm swappin' nothin'." His eyes opened briefly. "How much cash money you got, Brink?"

"Forty bucks." Brink sighed.

"S'pose you use that brain you're always braggin' on to figure out how to get a hundred and ten more. Then come around. We'll do business."

On the way out of the store Brink stopped at the toy counter. Even though he had grown out of knee pants ten years before, toys still fascinated him. Benson Barron had stocked several sets of metallic dogs. When one of the toy dogs on the counter was pushed toward another, nose to nose, one dog bounded away. The movement was effected by a small magnet of like polarity in the nose of each dog. Idly Brink scolded himself for not having thought of the idea. Back in the shed at home he had a number of small magnets even stronger than these.

While he was playing, Doc Ingram came into the store. Doc was an elderly man, his hair as white as his patients' teeth. "Bence," he said, "I got to have a pump to clear out the water in my basement. What've you got?"

The steel trap snapped in Brink's brain. He had bought a portable pump from Benson Barron last fall to irrigate Mr. New's melon patch. It had rained considerably in the time since. He had been able to use it only for the one job. This was Opportunity knocking.

Benson Barron had a memory like an elephant. He would recall readily that the price had been sixty-five dollars. It was necessary, therefore, to

maneuver the dentist out of earshot of Bence.

"Doc," Brink said, "wonder if you'd step out into the light and take a look at this molar of mine. Been aching right smart, but I wouldn't think of bothering you at the office —."

Doc's eyes glinted. "And paying three dollars for an office call?" he supplied.

Brink grinned. "If it needs treatment, I'll come in."

Outside, the dentist claimed he could see nothing wrong, and urged an office visit.

"Well, it's no matter," Brink said. "I really wanted to get you away from Bence. Happens I have a portable pump up at my place. I'm a mind to sell."

"How much you want for it, Brink?"

"I could be persuaded to let it go for a hundred and ten —."

"Oh, no. I could buy a new one for that." He started back into the store, and Brink grabbed his arm.

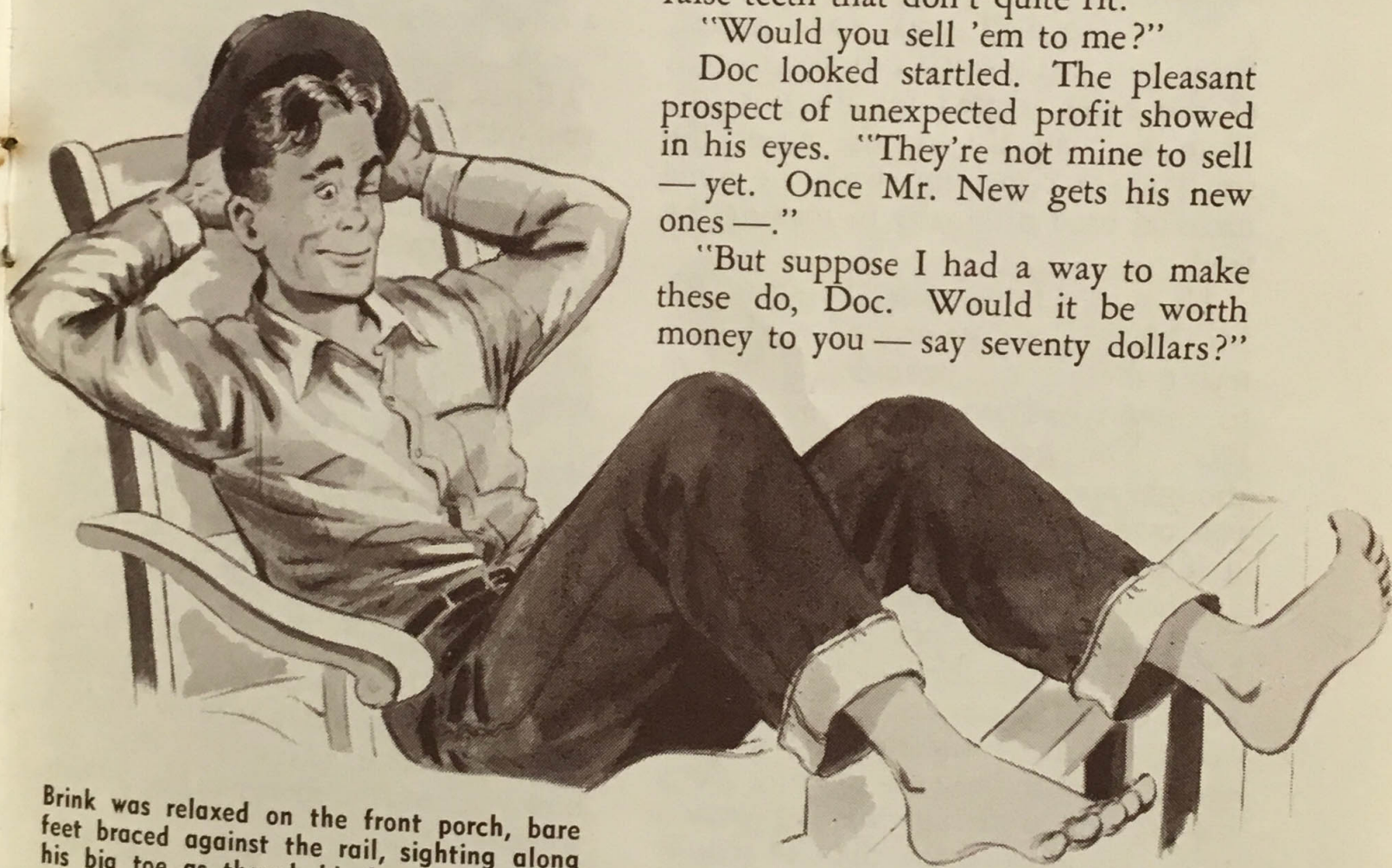
"I'm desperate, Doc. Got to raise some money for a special project. "Come see this pump and make me an offer."

At the shed behind Brink's house they arrived at a price of fifty dollars. Since fifty dollars in cash would leave a total of only sixty dollars to be raised, Brink accepted with regret. Since Doc overlooked the fact that the pump was portable and installation would consist of setting the pump down outside the basement window and leading the hose to the water, Brink volunteered to install it in exchange for a free office call for a closer inspection of the suspected molar.

Spotting the false teeth in the cabinet in Doc's office, Brink inquired if

they might happen to be Mr. New's. Assured that they were, he said, "How much you figure Mr. New would pay to get those teeth fixed?"

"He's already offered me seventy-five dollars. But his jaws have shrunk.



Brink was relaxed on the front porch, bare feet braced against the rail, sighting along his big toe as though his leg were a rifle.

He just wouldn't wait for that shrinkage at the time I made these. I tried to tell him —."

"Isn't there some kind of stuff — glue, maybe — that you can buy that would hold 'em in?"

"Well, it's not really satisfactory, Brink. I wouldn't recommend it. Only thing for Mr. New to do is to let me make him a new set. Give him a couple more weeks on soft boiled eggs and mush and he'll come around." The dentist's blue eyes twinkled.

But Brink had already got his idea.

Knowing Doc's reputation for shrewdness, he was only being cautious in getting down to brass tacks. He said, "What will you do with these teeth?"

Smiling, Doc threw out his hands. "There's nothing as useless as a set of false teeth that don't quite fit."

"Would you sell 'em to me?"

Doc looked startled. The pleasant prospect of unexpected profit showed in his eyes. "They're not mine to sell — yet. Once Mr. New gets his new ones —."

"But suppose I had a way to make these do, Doc. Would it be worth money to you — say seventy dollars?"

The deal was struck only after long haggling. In the end Doc agreed that if, by some miracle, the teeth could be made to fit Mr. New's jaws to Mr. New's complete satisfaction, he, Doc Ingram, would pay Brink the sum of sixty dollars.

Brink went home, and returned to the dentist's office within the hour. Marking four places on each plate, he requested the dentist to drill a round hole on each mark to the dimensions he furnished. Doc balked. After further argument, the dentist guessed that the four holes could be later

filled without affecting the ultimate usability of the teeth.

But Doc was curious. Doc asked more and more questions. Since Brink had decided that Doc Ingram must be exploited for further profit, he assumed an air of mystery.

When the drill work was finished, Brink inserted a small cylinder in each of the holes created for the purpose. Then he had the dentist cover the small space remaining with the same material used originally in making the teeth.

He said, "It wouldn't be smart for Mr. New to see me around while he's trying these out. I wouldn't want him to know I had anything to do with it, Doc. You get him to come over, though, and try them. If he's satisfied, you owe me sixty dollars. Appreciate it if you'd pay up this afternoon. Got another deal on I want to close."

It was three o'clock that afternoon before Doc's car braked to a stop in front of Brink's house. Brink was relaxed on the front porch, bare feet braced against the rail, sighting along his big toe as though his leg were a rifle. He allowed the chair to resume its normal position of all four legs on the floor as the dentist walked onto the porch.

Doc Ingram leaned against the rail, and wiped his glasses. "I told Mr. New I'd been experimenting; didn't know whether the teeth'd work or not. Said if they didn't, I'd have to give up, but if they did, he'd owe me seventy-five dollars. He put the teeth in his mouth."

Brink sat straight in his chair.

Doc took a deep breath. "He said they fit perfectly," he went on. "By George, they did, too, Brink." He counted out three twenty-dollar bills.

"Got to find out exactly what we did." Standing up, Brink looked away to the line of timber that bounded the short lawn. "It would," he pointed out, "be a good deal for me to collect sixty dollars for each set of loose-fitting teeth I fix up for you, Doc. Be a nice, regular income —."

Doc blinked, and got the point. "I'll pay, Brink, of course. How much you want for your — idea?"

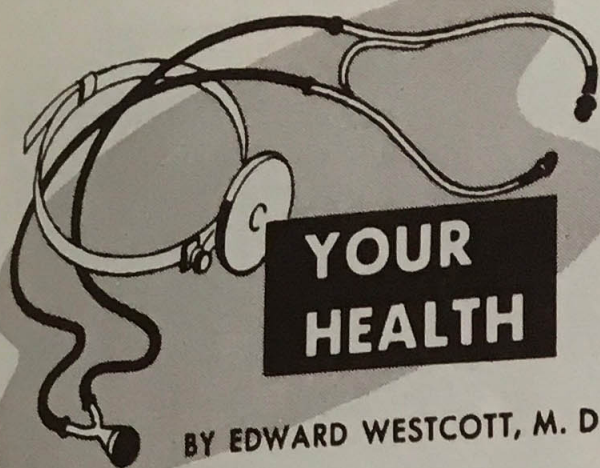
They haggled at length. Doc was a shrewd bargainer and Brink's need for immediate cash was urgent. With this additional cash he meant to hire a man to drive the truck. The best he could do was the sixty already paid plus an additional hundred.

"Works just like the toy dogs in Benson's," he explained. "I put magnets of the same polarity in those holes you drilled. They repel each other and push the teeth against the gums."

That afternoon Brink ran the second-hand truck to Mr. New's front door. Mr. New stood in the doorway and watched morosely as Brink climbed out. His voice was sour. "Beats all how you can find money to buy a truck when —."

Brink grinned. "Why, you furnished it, Mr. New. Doc Ingram paid me sixty dollars of the money you paid him to fix your teeth. Then he gave me another hundred to tell him how they worked. Look like they fit real nice, Mr. New."

His prospective father-in-law's face tended toward purple. It was, he considered, not the time to ask approval of marriage to his daughter. That would have to wait a few days till Mr. New cooled down. Meanwhile, he had a date with Elizabeth tonight. He guessed he would be good and fresh for it.



WHEN TO CHECK

SOME PEOPLE have periodic health examinations easily available to them. Others, by reason of distance, expense or actual negligence, do not come under the doctor's observation regularly. Hence it is worth taking mental note of certain simple signs which indicate that further investigation is in order.

Actually, *change* is the crucial consideration. Nature has a way of maintaining the status quo when all is going well with our health. If there is a change in any body function one must inquire after the cause. It may mean that the change in function is reflecting some serious structural alteration.

A symptom may point the finger of suspicion at a specific organ or system in the body, or it may be a general symptom that in itself does not incriminate any given region of the body. Fever is a good example of a general symptom. The mere knowledge that a person has a high temperature does not tell us whether the patient has pneumonia or an infected toe. Weight loss is another general symptom. It can be due to anything from cancer to unrequited love. Pallor, loss of appetite and weakness are other general symptoms.

Frequently a complaint will call at-

tention to a specific system in the body. Here again a new development is to be regarded as potentially dangerous. Take the case of the respiratory system. Hundreds of thousands of individuals have a mild chronic cough usually explained away as a "cigaret cough." Should the cough suddenly become productive of blood, this would come under the heading of a new development and invite further investigation.

One's heart announces that it is in trouble by such complaints as shortness of breath, chest pain or sometimes by swollen ankles.

The digestive system is over twenty feet in length and symptoms vary with the location of trouble. Difficulty in swallowing would suggest some abnormality between the mouth and stomach. Diarrhea would call attention to the small or large intestine. Other digestive symptoms worthy of mention are nausea, vomiting, jaundice (yellowing of the skin), or any change in bowel habits. Vomiting blood or passing blood by bowel is always serious until proven otherwise. Abdominal pain is not necessarily serious, but it must be investigated.

The urinary system gives warning by changes in function such as increased frequency of urination, getting up nights specifically to urinate or the passage of blood from the bladder. Trouble with the male reproductive organs usually manifests itself by some disturbance of urinary function.

Serious disease of the female reproductive organs most often shows itself by vaginal bleeding at an unusual time.

Such a survey of symptoms is obviously much abbreviated. The principle of a change requiring explanation can be applied to any symptom, however.

MOVIE MENU

Hollywood Preview of Pictures and Personalities
by Arthur Pierson

THE MOTION picture industry has been yelling SOS ever since Television reared its ugly head and began keeping the audiences in their living rooms instead of going out to the theatre. The experts have given various and sundry opinions, but the fact remains that the box office was hit worse than it had ever been before in the history of the cinema. Several new types of filming have come along, but suddenly one has emerged which has given the industry such a shot in the arm, it may find itself on the top of the heap after all.

This new process is called Cinerama. It is so good, Louis B. Mayer has accepted the chairmanship of the board, and after twenty-five years of being considered the cleverest of showmen as well as an astute business man, he must consider it exceptionally outstanding. Cinerama gives a three-dimensional effect to the screen which is so real, in the sample picture of a roller-coaster ride which is being shown, women have fainted, practically everybody in the audience makes audible reactions, and the people who have seen it are screaming for more.

Some people are saying the cost will be too prohibitive to save the industry in its crisis. Cinerama requires the simultaneous operation of three projection machines instead of the traditional one, plus a mammoth-size screen, as well as sound equipment in addition to what is now used. In the filming, the camera has three lenses photographing three negatives, which means three times as much film as black and white pictures. However, Technicolor, while using only one lens, photographs three negatives which are then emulsed into one final negative. Although the Cinerama group has made only sample pictures, of approximately 15 minutes in length, the first full-length feature goes before the cine-cameras soon in Hollywood with a veteran director,

Merian C. Cooper, at the reins. It is untitled, but will be an outdoor drama. Naturally, the group is being quite secretive about everything except the fact that stock is for sale on the open market.

Rachel Carson's unusual book, "The Sea Around Us," has inspired a motion picture which will be a full-length feature concerned with the exploration of marine life, even to a projected film version of Miss Carson's concept of the creation of the world, which was the beginning of her book. The creation, however, is the only part that has been conceived in the sound stage. The balance of the picture is a distillation of more than 323 hours of color footage which has been screened over a period of eleven months. RKO assigned Irwin Allen to this rather flabbergasting job of making available on the screen the same fascinating world which Miss Carson opened up in her best seller, which was later condensed in Reader's Digest. Mr. Allen, when he started the project, was a man who hated the sea, but in his eleven months of practically living under water, he admits to a wide-eyed awe for this subject which Miss Carson so beautifully brought to the public. Seldom in the history of book publishing has a literary work of such a subject-matter hit the best-seller lists.

So many of Hollywood's pictures are being made with foreign locations with stars scattered over the face of the earth, it is a little difficult to keep tab. Kirk Douglas, who just finished "The Juggler" made in Tel Aviv, goes to France to star in "The Girl on the Via Flaminia," then goes to Italy to do "Strange Harvest." Gregory Peck stays in Europe to do F. Scott Fitzgerald's novel, "Babylon Revisited," which Paramount will do in Paris. Danny Kaye goes to England to do "Knock on Wood" which is the first motion picture to be made by the independent company he has formed.

EDITORIAL

GEORGE N. SPENCER, President

February 1, 1953

Next Premium Payment Date On Your Group Life Insurance

NOTICES OF the next semi-annual premium date on the Group Life insurance certificates, due February 1, 1953, have been forwarded to all our members who are carrying this form of protection.

Normally, ONLY ONE SUCH NOTICE will be mailed to you, but if you have not as yet received that notice, or you have misplaced the same, you should request a duplicate from our office AT ONCE.

Remember — the prompt payment of your premium and membership dues as stated on the notice not only further safeguards the protection of your beneficiaries but greatly assists our office in handling a tremendous volume of business during this period.

Important! Do not fail to return UNFOLDED the premium and dues notice that has been sent to you, when you forward your payment of the same. And that mailing CANNOT BE LATER THAN MIDNIGHT OF MARCH 4, 1953, to prevent the automatic cancellation of the insurance — over which the Association has no control. Furthermore, always make such payments direct to:

THE FEDERAL POSTAL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION

444 SHERMAN STREET

POST OFFICE BOX 2451

DENVER 1, COLORADO

REPORT OF OUR ANNUAL MEETING!

YOU undoubtedly saw the official notice in your PEN Magazine for December, of the Annual Meeting of F.P.E.A. to be held on January 21, 1953.

However, since that meeting will be held quite late in January, we will not be able to publish the regular report of it until the March number of your PEN.

You can undoubtedly realize that it now requires much more time to prepare all the articles, illustrations, color-work, etc., in addition to the printing of the constantly increasing number of the magazines.

But we are sure you also appreciate your PEN even more — judging from so many complimentary letters we have been receiving concerning it from far and wide.

We also believe even now — several weeks prior to the close of the current business year of F.P.E.A. — that you are going to be further pleased and proud of that annual report showing more splendid progress of your Association, in which your continued membership with that of your thousands of fellow-workers have made such achievement possible.

he hunts mountain lions

Alice Spencer Cook

THE J. EDGAR HOOVER of the Colorado Game and Fish Department, the man who tracks down criminals of the wild animal world, is Bryan Denton, a man in his early fifties, of medium height, slender but sturdy build and a ruddy, outdoor look. Denton, whose title is "In Charge of Predator Control," supervises the trapping and killing of bears, coyotes, bobcats and mountain lions.

Since a bear is classified as a big game animal and not a predator, it is trapped or killed only when it becomes a nuisance by molesting homes and livestock. Coyotes are considerably below normal in number because of traps, poisoning and hunting from the air and ground, but bobcats have increased rapidly in the past few years because of biological conditions which seem to occur in cycles.

The most wanted criminal is the sly, sleek mountain lion, so great a menace to both big game animals and to domestic stock that the State of Colorado pays a bounty of \$50.00 for each mountain lion killed.

Tawny in color, the lion is one of the largest cats of the New World. It is two and one-half feet in height, its body measuring about three and

Bryan Denton and his favorite hunting dog all set for the hunt.

PEN

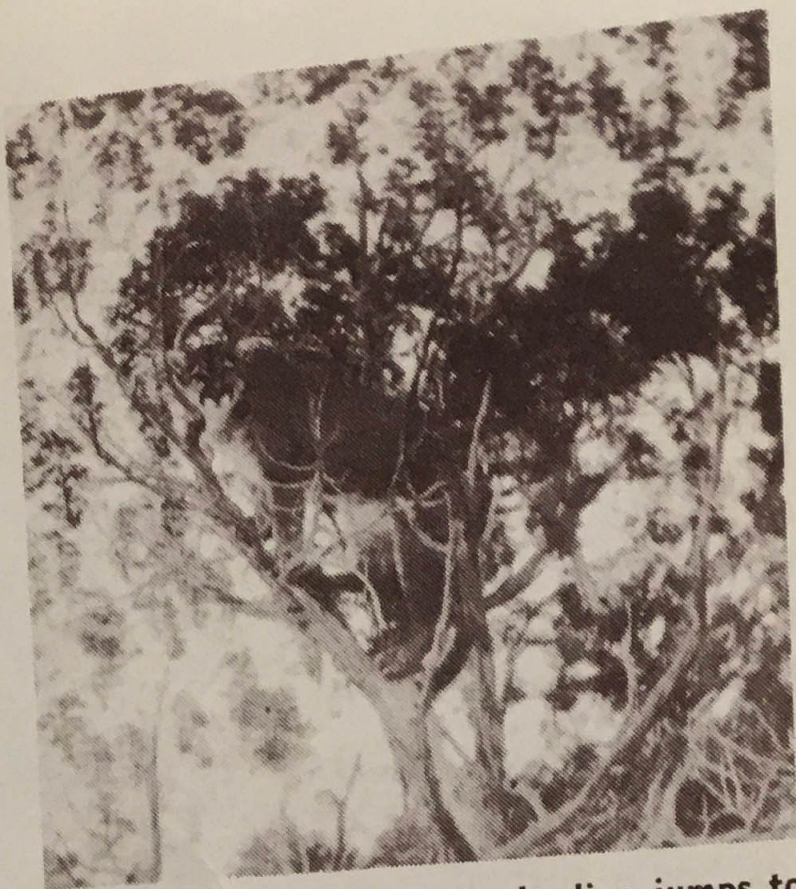
one-half feet in length and its cylindrical tail is approximately half the length of its body.

Mountain lions increased in number and became bolder during World War II which brought a sharp decline in the number of hunters and trappers. Today, despite an accelerated control program, they are still holding their own. During the recent big game season, hunters reported seeing many of these animals along the Continental Divide, from Walden through the Pikes Peak and Canon City areas.

In the course of his work over a period of twenty-five years, twelve of them with the Game and Fish Commission, Bryan Denton has learned many things about the life and habits of the mountain lion. A member of the cat family, he has found it has a certain fear of dogs in the daytime, but at night will often creep up to a camp and kill any dog that comes near enough. "I've never known one to molest an adult human being," Denton says, "except perhaps when riding a horse or when guarding sheep or other animals, but it will attack a child left unprotected."

For food, the lion depends for the most part upon the deer, porcupine, and beaver, and has an entirely different technique for hunting each one. In the case of the deer, it creeps up to the grazing animal and leaps on its back. Or, if unsuccessful in this, and the deer bounds away, the lion still has a chance, but wisely gives up the chase after fifty to one hundred feet when the fleet-footed creature shifts into high speed.

The porcupine can't run fast enough to escape, but it can climb a tree and get out on a limb where the lion can't follow. The lion lurks nearby until



With the dogs on his trail, the lion jumps to a tree and tries to hide among the branches.

the porcupine comes down. The quills, a protection from most predators, are no help now. The lion circles the terror-stricken animal, which keeps turning to face the enemy. Finally, with a hook of a mighty paw under the dizzy porcupine's head, the lion flips it on its back like a griddle cake, grasps it by the throat and proceeds with a satisfying, one-course meal.

The lion kills cattle and sheep, too, especially sheep, which it seems to slaughter just for fun. Denton cites a case where one lion killed thirty sheep from one flock in a single night. As for colts, in lion-infested areas, ranchers are afraid to leave them out on the range.

The lion always hunts with the wind. In the case of big game it follows a certain route, like a trapper, at intervals of three days to three weeks. This route usually follows the higher ridges where the game trails lead through low saddles. This means that Denton has deep snows, rough terrain and sub-zero weather to fight as well

as lions which can be more dangerous.

Dressed in warm underwear, leather jacket, pants tucked into high boots and a wool cap with ear flaps, Denton sets out on his dangerous mission. He travels in a jeep as far as possible and establishes a base camp with a crude shelter. Then, armed with his gun, his dogs at his heels, with concentrated, easy-to-carry food or Army K rations in his knapsack, he proceeds on foot. The hardy dogs, for the most part, must forage for themselves. Once, in a blizzard, a dog got lost. Nine days later he came limping home, little the worse for his harrowing experience.

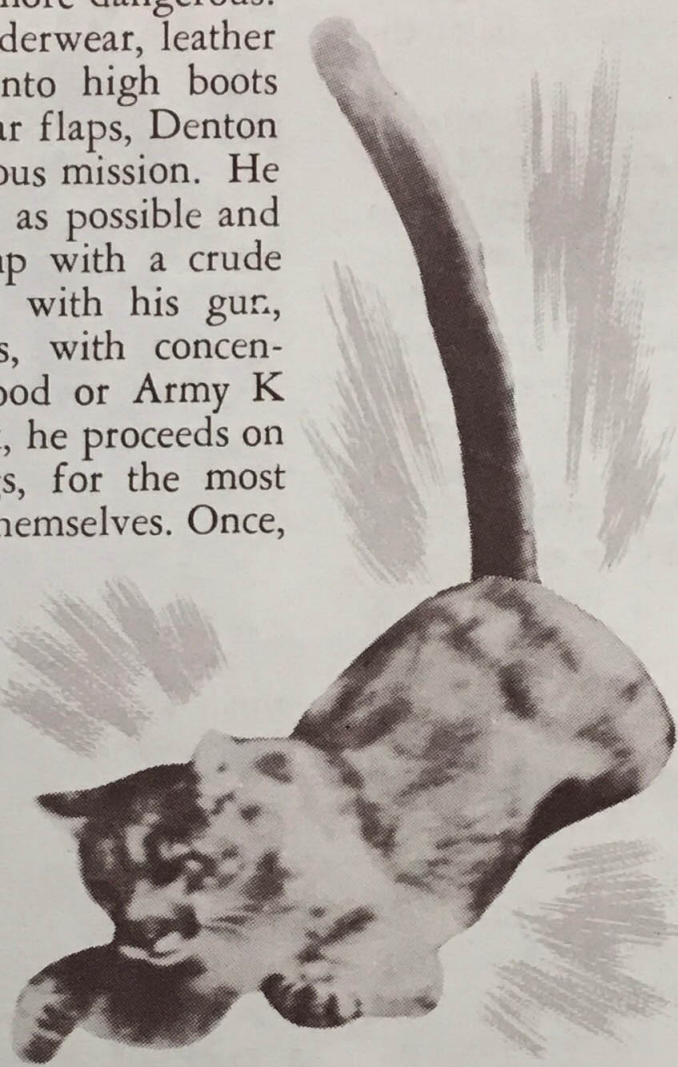
"You need dogs, good ones, to hunt mountain lions," Denton explains.

"The lion has sharp eyes, quick ears and a keen sense of smell. He is clever at hiding, in a tree or stretched out on

some rocky ledge. Often I have passed within a short distance of one without knowing it, but the sensitive nose of a dog can't be fooled."

"I like to hunt with three dogs, two of them fast, a third one slow to pick up the trail when the others, in their eagerness, miss it. I start training them at about six months by taking them along with older dogs. It takes six years to really train a dog to hunt mountain lions and in that time there are some casualties."

"My favorite dog is a cross between a Walker hound and a black and tan. He has not only a good nose but is fast on the trail."



A hunted lion will often leap from the tree as soon as man appears. Denton has known lions to jump 30 and 40 feet in such leaps.

"The lion often senses it is being hunted long before it could possibly see or hear the hounds or the hunter. It will change its trail many times, leap sheer cliffs and sometimes completely circle the hunter, coming upon him from the rear. This is one reason that it is safer and easier to use hounds, for they catch the 'cat' scent immediately and start following the trail."

Denton never turns his dogs loose until he has "bounced" the lion or the dogs have struck a warm trail.

As soon as the lion hears them it makes

for high country, crashing and bounding through underbrush until it comes to rough terrain where it leaps from rock to rock, leaving a difficult trail. If it cannot reach rough country, it will turn and fight, gradually retreating until it reaches the nearest tree. It doesn't *climb* the trunk, as many people believe, according to Denton. It leaps to a branch eight or ten feet above the ground, then runs easily up the tree to the top and tries to hide among the branches.

The dogs mill around the base of the tree, jumping up on it and baying frantically. When Denton appears, the lion turns from the dogs to him,

snarling in fury and lashing its long tail. An old fellow that has been hunted before will often leap from the tree as soon as a man appears. Denton has seen a lion jump thirty feet from a tree to a hillside and has known one to make a 40-foot jump on a down grade.

As soon as the lion gets in a position for a good head shot, Denton pulls the trigger. He uses a 22-caliber revolver. It's much safer and easier handled when working with dogs, he says, because it's less bulky and yet has power enough to kill a lion if hit in the right spot, right between his yellow eyes. At this point, the skull is paper-thin and a 22-caliber bullet will easily penetrate it. The lion is stone dead when it hits the ground. The dogs grab it the instant it falls. If shot through the heart, the lion will come up fighting even in its death struggle and its long, wicked claws can rip a dog wide open.

"I prefer to hunt alone," Denton says, "but I know it's bad business. A wounded mountain lion can be mighty

dangerous and there is always the possibility of snow slides and falls among rocks. Besides, men are often needed to handle the dogs and bring out the lions that have been killed."

Hunting mountain lions is no sport for the average hunter, Denton warns. Not because of the lion. It will run from a human being if it has any avenue of escape. What makes it tough is the cold, the deep snow, the terrain which is really rugged. The lion will keep running and leaping from cliff to cliff. Often it takes from three to five days to come upon it. Even an experienced hunter can give out in that time and a middle-aged business man, out for adventure, can suffer a heart attack that might easily prove fatal.

The average life span of a mountain lion is approximately fourteen years. Since it kills the equivalent of one deer each week, and a female lion with cubs will make more than one kill a week, it can be readily understood why the Colorado Game and Fish Department lists this animal as "Most Wanted."



WHAT A GOVERNMENT JOB MEANS TO ME

(continued from page 11)

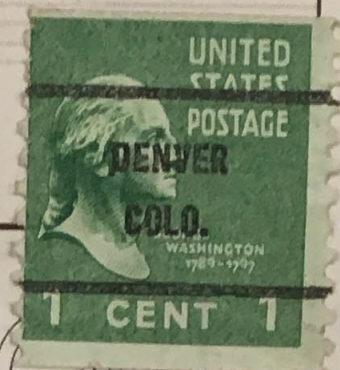
future as a way of life for the sons and daughters to follow them. Let us make a rendezvous with life, that those who have died to preserve our freedom and collective security have not died in vain. Let us regard our jobs as public employees as sacred trusts, personal and individual responsibili-

ties, and God-given privileges to serve our fellow-men.

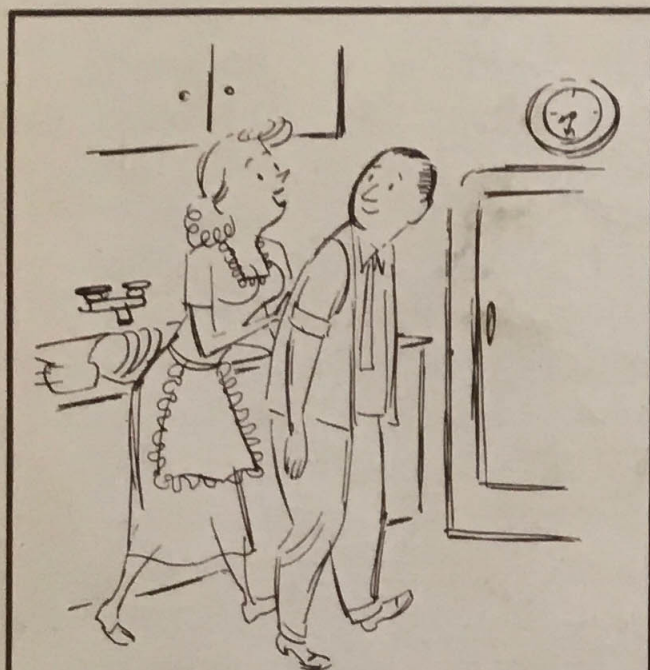
Yes, I like working for myself, I am proud of my job, and intend to make my small contribution toward helping democracy to succeed even far beyond the fondest hopes and expectations of those of our forebears who conceived it, and to whose high goal dedicated their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor.

This is the last of the series of six articles by winners of the PEN CONTEST.

jest, n fun



KATHRYNE D SHEFFIELD
1411 OGDEN ST APT 17
DENVER COLO



"I can do them —
you go read your paper."



..... And then BABY came.

A big shot is a
little shot that kept
right on shooting.

An after-dinner speaker had gone on and on for what seemed several hours. Finally, one member of the audience slipped away from the table and out into the hall. There he met a fellow banqueter who had slipped out earlier.

"Has he finished yet?" he asked.

"Yes," replied the one who had just come out, "a long time ago, but he won't stop."

+ + +

Little Patricia was watching her mother apply cold cream to her face, and asked, "What's that for, Mommie?"

Mother answered, "Why, this is to make me beautiful."

After the cold cream had been removed with tissues, Patricia sadly remarked, "Didn't work, did it?"

+ + +

A man died and left \$100 each to an Englishman, Irishman and a Scotsman on the condition that they each put \$10 in his coffin.

The Englishman dropped in his \$10; the Irishman did likewise. Then along came the Scotsman who put in the coffin a check for \$30 and took out the \$20.

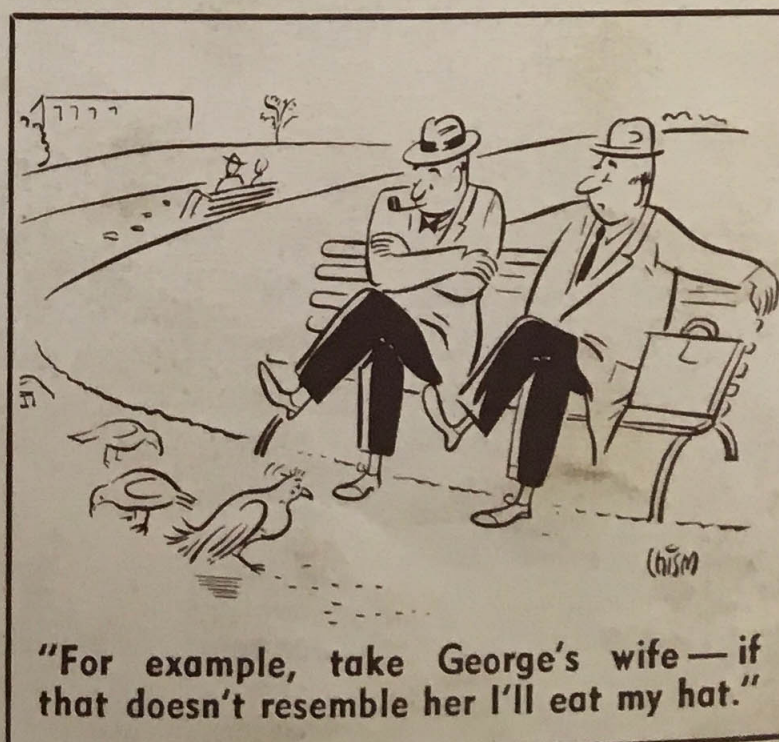
A feminine tourist pointed to a decorated skull in a show case: "Do you know whose skull it was?"

Tired Mexican Guide: "That is the skull of the Emperor Montezuma."

The Giddy One then pointed to a smaller skull in the same case: "Who was that?"

Guide (with perfectly straight face): "That, Madam, is the skull of Montezuma when he was a little boy."

+ + +



"For example, take George's wife — if that doesn't resemble her I'll eat my hat."



UNITED STATES MINT SERVICE

Vol. 2

March 1955

No. 4

CONDITIONS GOVERNING THE USE OF SICK LEAVE

Sick leave may be used for absences under the following circumstances when approved by your supervisor:

1. When you are too ill to perform your duties, or for pregnancy.
2. When you require medical, dental or optical examination or treatment.
3. When a member of your immediate family has a contagious disease and requires your care.
4. When, because of exposure to contagious disease, your presence at work might jeopardize the health of others.

If you are ill and cannot report for work, notify your supervisor, or have someone else do so, at the earliest possible moment on the first day of your absence. Failure to do so may result in your absence being charged to leave without pay. If you are absent for more than 3 days, a formal leave application must be presented including a certificate signed by your doctor. When such a certificate cannot reasonably be obtained, a written statement from you indicating the nature of your illness, and why you did not have a doctor, may be accepted at the discretion of your office. In certain circumstances, your office may require a doctor's certificate for absences of less than 3 days.

Sick leave may not be used for minor indispositions which do not incapacitate you for duty. Use of leave for such purposes is not only an inconvenience to your office but is to your own disadvantage since you should save your leave in case you need it some day for a long or serious illness.

All grants of sick leave must be approved by your supervisor and you must obtain approval from him in advance if leave is requested for medical, dental or optical treatment.

All full-time employees earn 4 hours of sick leave each biweekly pay period (13 days a year). There is no limit to the amount you may accumulate. The minimum amount of annual or sick leave you may take is 1 hour. For example, if you take 1 hour and a quarter, you will be charged with 2 hours. If you transfer to another Government agency having the same leave system as Treasury, any accumulation of annual and sick leave will be transferred with you. Your leave clerk will be able to tell you how much leave you have to your credit at any time.

HERE'S PROOF

Philadelphia's proof coin production has increased over the years almost as much as their subway fares. Behold:

1950	51,386 sets
1951	57,500 "
1952	81,980 "
1953	128,800 "
1954	233,300 "

Anyone for guessing? What will 1955's total be?

Editor - Eisenberg Hayden - Office of the Director

REPORTERS:

Philadelphia Mint - Victor Harkin
 Denver Mint - Henry W. Riddick
 San Francisco Mint - Alexander Hamilton

New York Assay Office - George Tobin
 West Point Depository - J. W. Eisenhauer
 Fort Knox Depository - Albert B. Evans

Art Department - Gus Ferguson

IT'S HISTORY

Continuing the Seattle story, you will remember the headlines in the Sunday paper giving an account of the opening of the Seattle Assay Office. This was a special Northwest Edition, giving all the industries of the State of Washington, and we received prominent news coverage, including several sketched pictures showing customers lined up at the receiving window, the large bullion scale (which remained in Seattle to the end), a picture of a Bullion bar actual size, pokes, nuggets, pans, and a picture of a fat man poking a rod (presumably a stirrer) into a queer looking furnace.

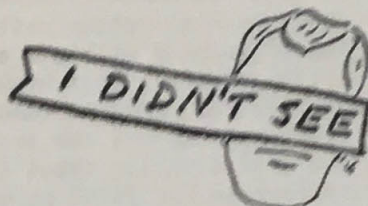
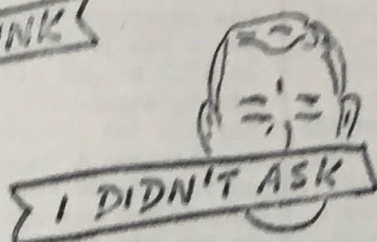
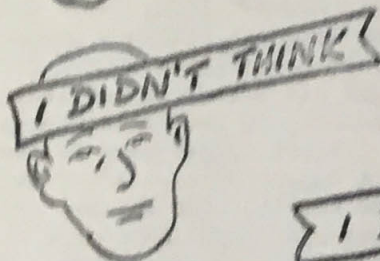
Yes, indeed, for fifty-six years to follow, the Seattle Assay Office was to become an integral part of the growing city of 60,000 inhabitants and a long established landmark. These were the days when fancy Limburger cheese was prominently advertised in the top left-hand corner of the Daily. Photography was not sufficiently advanced yet to use on the printed sheet, free-hand drawings by staff artists being used exclusively. Oh, there was some opposition concerning the office, even in those days, and despite the ever increasing volume of business, there was serious consideration given by the powers that be as to its actual value and whether its existence really justified the then significant sum of \$20,000 appropriated. This was dispelled, however, by a statement from the Committee Chairman on Mint and Coinage, Mr. G. W. Stone, of Philadelphia. On August 10, 1898, he declared that the Seattle Assay Office was here to stay as a service to the general public, and that an increased appropriation for its maintenance was in order and consequently forthcoming. We will not argue Mr. Stone's point of view as to the value. History has proven beyond a doubt his good logic. Such a Government agency, located by the Mint Service in the far Pacific Northwest to take care of the immediate needs of its citizens, was unquestionably one of the high spots in the life of Seattle that helped put the town on the map. Now Seattle had the unique distinction of representing one of the largest, if not the largest gold finds in the North American Continent.

Before the Assay Office had been opened for business, our local banks, such as the National Bank of Commerce, Dexter Horton

National Bank, and others still in existence today, were the recipients of gold from the early strikes up north. Every boat that came down emptied its cargo of precious metal with most of it to be stored in the already over-taxed bank vaults, only to steam out of port with another full load of would-be millionaires. Some had nothing but the clothes on their backs, for it was summer, and nothing was generally known about weather conditions in the Far North in those days - besides, nobody cared. Some of the gold recovered would find its way to the various assay offices scattered throughout the country; some of it was sold outright to Alaskan banks or exchanged for drafts. A great deal was either lost or stolen, and some of it was used to barter or trade for the very necessities of life, itself. If you would take up the Treasury Annual Report, dated 1901, Production of Gold and Silver, you would find a detailed account for Alaska, beginning on page 58, by Cabell Whitehead, Ph. D., which gives a good picture of conditions existing at the time of the Seward Peninsula gold strike at the turn of the century. Only the hardy could exist. Many people are not fully aware that the great majority of the gold receipts in the early years were of Canadian origin. British Columbia did not have an assay office until a number of years later. Canada imposed restrictions on the Great Yukon. Claims were small and limited, with government royalty exacted. There were no clear titles to claims. These facts, together with the inconvenience of carrying gold to the east and the delay in receiving payments, led to the serious consideration of deciding to establish an assay office in this most convenient locality.

It seems we were not without competition, however, as one need only turn to the advertising section and list the names of gold buyers ready and willing to purchase same with such catch phrases as "Spot Cash" - "Full Value" - "No need to Wait", etc., etc. To these came the desperate, the despondent would-be miners, the disillusioned who happened to pick up a few ounces of gold in the mad scramble during the year of toil, and who had a single desire - either cash in quickly and forget the whole ordeal in one wild fling or slip quietly out of town, never to return. We can go on and on through copy after copy of the dailies describing the heartaches and disappointments in those days but our office was not built to comfort the unfortunate - it had a duty to perform from the start, and performed it well.

3 causes of accidents



REWARD FOR APPREHENSION

Foreign Body in Eye has been added to Most Dangerous Criminal List.

DESCRIPTION:

1. No Eye Protection

On jobs where there is any danger of flying particles, fumes, or falling objects, there is the right kind of protection for eyes.

2. Wrong Eye Protection

Eye protection means many kinds of eye covering. Get the right kind for the hazards of your job.

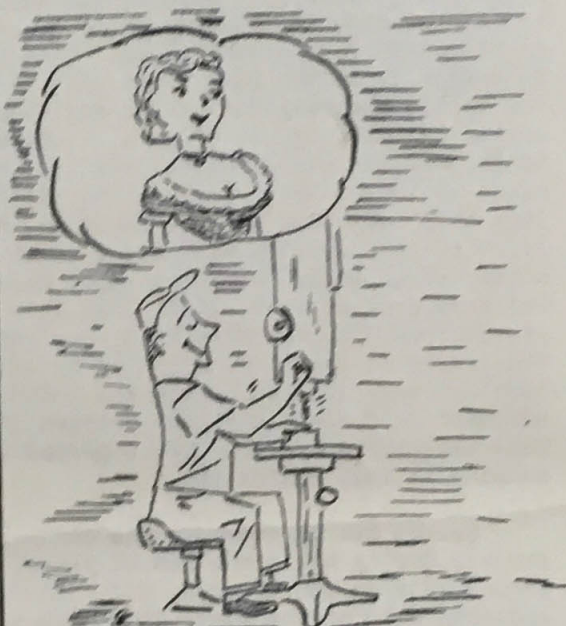
3. Wrong Training—"I'll take a chance."

Supervision has not sold the value of eyesight or the great handicap of a lack of eyesight.

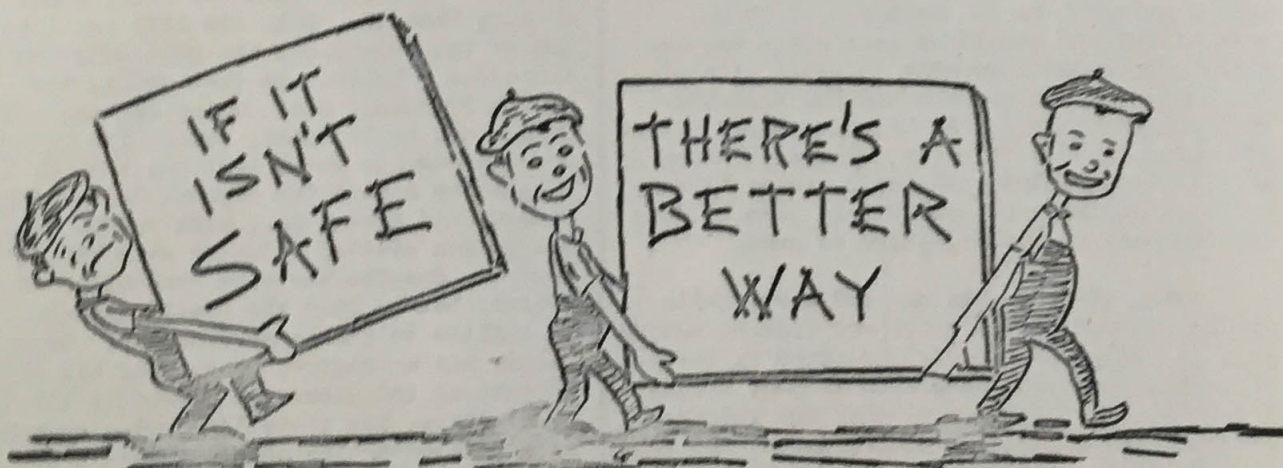
4. Wrong Attitude—"Safety glasses are a nuisance."

They are, but not as great a nuisance as no sight.

JOE TOOLATE.....



A dream about to become a nightmare.



THE BUREAU PRESENTS

When the Gold Rush of 1898 first struck Seattle, George L. Swarva little dreamed that some day he would take an active part himself in the handling of so many millions of dollars worth of the precious metal that eventually poured into Seattle for years to come, from the great Territory of Alaska and the Klondike. In fact, he was just studying about Alaska and the Yukon Territory in the fifth grade then, and if he was like most boys, geography was a subject that required some studying and test taking, and to be gotten over with as soon as possible.

George Lewis Swarva was one of two children born of Norwegian parents who immigrated to this country from Norway in 1880, settling in Wisconsin for several years. With stories filtering in to the East concerning the booming little town way out in the Northwest called Seattle, Charles Swarva, a carpenter by trade, and his wife, Laura, made up their minds to tryout their luck in that little village they had heard so much about in this great adopted country of theirs. In 1887 Seattle became their permanent home, where George was born September 29, 1888, just across the street from the old Denny Park, on Denny Hill, considered at that time near the outskirts of town and only 12 blocks from the boundary. The district long since has been leveled down in a huge sluicing operation over a period of years, dumping it into Elliot Bay.

George Swarva attended the old Mercer School, during his grade school years, and was graduated from the Broadway High School. Those exciting days of the early 1900's must have stirred up the imagination of the recent graduate and gold, being the talk of the town, no doubt influenced him to make such decision as to take advantage of it. In 1906 George enrolled at the University of Washington as an engineering student. During his university days, his summer vacations were spent in a few mining communities in the State of Idaho, where firsthand practical experience was acquired by actually working in mills with mining equipment and men who had the know-how. With such preparation to his advantage, he was graduated in 1911 from the College of Mines as a full-fledged Mining Engineer, ready to take up the adventures of mining that were to follow for many successful years to come.

Being of large stature and heavy build, George was one of the stars who took an active part in college football. As guard on the U. of Washington team, he played in many a winning game, for three years under the guidance and coaching of Gilmore Dobie, one of the top five football coaches of that time in the Nation.

With University days behind him, George was ready to make his fortune in a distant land, known only by

his geography days yet alluring enough to cause him to head boldly northward for Alaska! In 1911 he put his practical knowledge of mining engineering to profit and began working for the largest copper mine in the world, the Kennecott Copper Mines. After two years of experience working with copper, gold proved the stronger lure and George decided to try his luck in a new adventure. Hearing about the busy operations of the Alaska Treadwell Gold Mining Co. and its rich ground he travelled down to southeast Alaska and Douglas Island where he went to work in the cyanide plant. He held the positions of shift boss, foreman, assayer and chemist for the company before deciding to quit working for others and do his own mining.

For several years, until 1923, Mr. Swarva did salvaging operations from tailings and mill cleanups. It might be explained that in those days the large mining companies were interested only in recovering the gold by simpler methods and mass production, consequently waste was left that contained valuable minerals and a considerable amount of gold. This recovery from waste required technical knowledge and skill, and George Swarva wisely and judiciously foresaw the good possibilities, acquired leasing rights to the property and paid regular royalty from the proceeds of his operations. It was in Juneau, three miles across the bay, that he met and married his wife, Mary McLaughlin, in 1917. George Lawler was born to them in 1918. The cave-in of the great Treadwell Mine, in 1918, left a gaping hole for the tides of the Gastineau Channel to wash in and cover several business buildings and homes. Mr. Swarva recalls how the ground trembled and shook like an earthquake under the foundations of the building he was in - about 50 feet away from the hole, almost sucking them in. Only one life was lost - one of the miners who had gone down the shaft to rescue a burro. At that point, the Alaska Treadwell Gold Mining Co. was all washed up, so to speak, except for one mine, and the company moved what was left of its operations across the channel to the Alaska Juneau Gold Mining Co., high on Mt. Roberts. Mr. Swarva elected to stick with the island, however, despite the mass evacuation of population, but in 1923 the family finally moved to Seattle to settle permanently. George Swarva has no regrets concerning his Alaskan adventures and pleasurably recalls the days spent there, his spare time often occupied with fishing in its abundant waters and hunting in the wild stretches of land surrounding his home in that frontier country.

(Continued on next page)



SWEEPS CELLAR



LENNIE BRITTON, "Welper" at Seattle, is now in the military, we understand, and is in England serving as a Captain in the Air Force.....
REBEY LANE, Philly Accounting, is welcomed back to his desk following a three-week sojourn in Naval Hospital.....MILLIE HALL, demonstrated his new Revere 200 watt projector during lunch hour the other day. These Denver boys really take their picture-shooting in earnest - and how nice for their fellow-sweepers.....MR. and MRS. CHARLES J. BLANCHARD (Denver) recently celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary.....NICHOLAS MILDERRID, the gifted young artist who so skillfully illustrated many of the N.Y. articles on funny money, resigned recently from the Guard Force to accept a new position which will afford him greater opportunities. The Bulletin is indebted to him for his generosity in devoting so much of his time to the "cause" and we wish him unbounded success and lots of good luck in his new endeavors.....N. Y. also bid adieu and good wishes to FRANCIS MULLIGAN, Chemist in the N. & R. Dept., who has accepted a position in private industry.....BILL GILLIN, Philadelphia Deposit Weigh Clerk, has been finally admitted to the Granddaddy Club. His daughter, living in the rural district of Minnesota, decided to stage the event at 2:00 A. M. with the temperature at 25 below. Women are so thoughtless!.....Again, Philly, JOAN NEUMETS is now wearing a sparkle on her left hand that matches the sparkle in her eyes! May be at Denver - ALEX BEND, creating a shaker for Assay; MEARL KENNEDY and TOM MALONE moving a gas furnace from the 3rd floor rock assay dept. to the assay dept. on the 2nd floor in the interest of consolidating. Best wishes are extended to MRS. RAE V. BRESTUP, Superintendent of the Philadelphia Mint, for a speedy recovery from her recent operation.....

THE BUREAU PRESENTS (Contd. from pg. 4)

From 1924 to 1933, Mr. Svarva was manager of a coal and fuel company in Seattle. Two more children were born; Nancy, now a student nurse at Swedish Hospital, and Joseph, who is in partnership with his brother, George, Jr. Both George and Joe own and operate a service and tire station. Mr. Svarva has two granddaughters by his son, George, Jr.

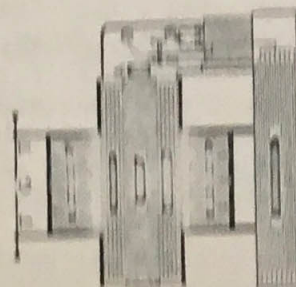
After the election in 1932, the new Administration commenced to look over the field of eligibles to fill the vacancy of Assayer in Charge at the Seattle Assay Office. George Svarva was a natural for the position, and on June 14, 1933, he took the Oath and was duly installed in the position from which he is now retiring. The Seattle staff have the utmost respect and admiration for this wise and kindly man and consider themselves fortunate in having been associated with him through the years. We all join them in wishing him a happy and contented retirement.

HARRY KING, Seattle, has sent in this thumbnail sketch of his first meeting with - well, read on..."Wouldn't you just know it would happen this way! Here we are busy taking down the large bullion balance, preparing it for crating--our hands dirty and greasy--making a din with an electric saw and hammering away like mad, when who should appear at the receiving window but MR. WM. H. BRETT, Director of the Mint, himself. After a round of handshakes with the crew who were present (hands all greasy), Mr. Brett proceeded to take off his hat and coat and begin to interview each one of us. We found him the kind of fellow we would like to know better, but under a more auspicious occasion than this, and we think we would find in him a valuable friend. Mr. Brett left us with the impression that his congenial and affable personality had contributed a great deal to his success in life. Now we understand why he was chosen to direct the important activities of the Mint Service. Mr. Brett appeared to sympathize with our problems, as we told our tale of woe, but we want him to feel that we also sympathize with the position he is in when facing the problem of employment for us all. Glad to meet you, Mr. Brett.".....

Philadelphia mourns the recent death of HARRY J. HURENSTUOET, former Assistant Assayer, after a long illness. Harry had retired on disability in November of 1953. The Bureau extends sympathy to JOANNE COYLE, Accounting Div., upon the recent death of her Mother...BERT L. WELLS, Guard at Philadelphia, is on a cheerless journey to Mississippi to attend the funeral of his Mother.....And friends of ELLA BOYD, at Philadelphia, are expressing sincere sympathy upon the recent death of her Mother. Friends will be grieved to learn of the passing last month of RAYMOND SPELLACY, Foreman of the Electrical Shop at San Francisco.

Here we go again! You name it...?????????

The Art Department is sure it is none of the following:



1. A tsetse fly incubator.
2. A syzygy analyzer.
3. An electronic paper weight.

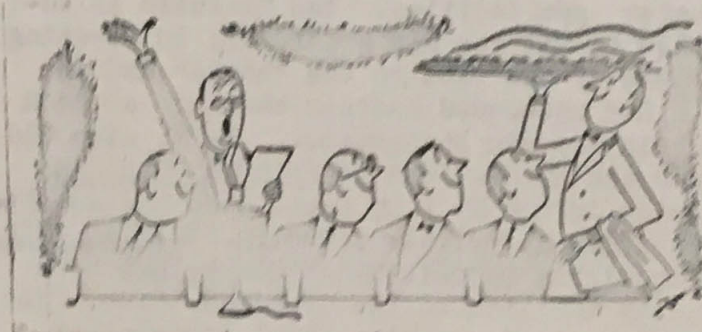


SWEEPS CELLAR



JOHNNY MADDOX, Philadelphia carpenter, was entranced by the recent biog of MARSHALL REDDISH; he has one question - What does he do with his old clothes?????.....GEORGE ZURN, Cost Accountant and JOE MINETTI, Captain of the Guard at N. Y., are both convalescing from surgery. George's doctors were prospecting for gall stones and appear to have been successful.....The busiest men at Seattle during the close-down were ALBERT SHERMAN and ALEXANDER KORSECK, busily engaged in tearing down old filing cabinets and making crates to ship the bullion balances to Denver and Philly.....Korseck is now with Boeing Airplane Co. as electrical inspector and Sherman is loafing a bit before picking up another job... TED FAIRCHILD has returned to Denver's Coining Dept. as a machine operator after a 2-yr. tour of military duty in Germany....Someone in Denver suggested that our drawing in the last issue was an improved version of George Gobel's "electric brain." Gus Ferguson's "Goldberg" in the January issue has been deciphered by FRANK CAMPBELL, Philly accountant, however. He believes, and rightly, that it is the innards of a gas refrig. He admits some help, though, from a gal named Merriam-Webster. Merriam's rather well known in D.C. too!!.....JOSEPH PURSLEY (Seattle) is now out of the hospital and on crutches after a bout with "guarditis" or slippage of the spine.... DEAN JOHNSTON is now working for the State of Washington as Business Administrator for the State Training School at Chehalis.....Denver's 3rd floor "Master of Sweeps", the smiling ELMER HAYES, is a versatile young man having developed, among other accomplishments, a very popular western band who play in and out of town. Elmer not only sings tenor on the ballads but strums a mean electric guitar, as well.....And congratulations upon their Silver Wedding Anniversary were being accepted last month by Guard ROBERTSON and his lovely wife, Thelma.....When the printing and the pictures in the News Bulletin look a bit run down and saggy you can rest assured the Art Department is either on a field trip or on leave. Last month he (GUS FERGUSON, that is) spent 30 days on jury duty - not rendering decisions and dishing out Justice. NO! He played cards the entire time - they didn't call him on a single case.....HUGH CARGAN, Assistant Top in Deposit Melting at N. Y., is busily engaged mending three ribs fractured in a fall on the ice recently, near his home. Drs. LEWIS TIDBALL and PAUL DOWD, those famed Philadelphia dieticians (?), are as happy as Liberace in a toothpaste factory - their only patient, JOE BOLAND, has lost 14 pounds in February! He's now permitted on trolley cars! And Denver's Jackie Gleason, BILL MANNING, is wearing a beautiful sport jacket he hasn't been able to get into since 1946!!....

HAROLD OLESON, out Seattle way, is with Boeing Airplane Co., and our erstwhile reporter, HARRY KING, is in the Army, now. He has a clerical-accounting position in the Army Finance Section at Fort Lawton. Was angling for an Editorial Clerk job which would have included editing a bi-weekly paper.....Philadelphia happily reports that Helen Kuehnle, wife of the Medal Room's ED KUEHNLE, is back home again following a long hospitalization, and MRS. GROVER WELKER, wife of one of their Guards, is also coming along completely.....JACOB PEPPER, Deposit Weigh Clerk at Philadelphia has the astounding sick leave record of 33 years and 11 months with but 2 days' sick leave! Wonder what he eats?



A dinner at Schwartz's restaurant, hard by the N. Y. A. O., was given on Feb. 21st in honor of AUSTIN GRAHAM, who retired from the Assay Dept. the end of that month. Austin is greatly admired by all who know him and the affair was well attended. His fine record of service with the Treasury Department (40½ yrs.), and with the U. S. Army in both World Wars was ably reviewed by Mr. BUFORD. MR. DUSENBERRY, an experienced hand at this sort of thing, addressed the gathering and presented Austin with a gold (?) key, symbolic of the trust and confidence placed in him by the office. BILL CARDELLA, long time associate of Austin, capably performed the duties of toastmaster and made the presentation of an engraved watch, a gift from his friends in the office. TED SCHIERCKE, who was closely associated with Austin for many years, entertained with reminiscences of their early days together in the Assay Dept. In his response, Austin, a speaker of no mean ability himself, reviewing his own experiences revealed his deep understanding of the problems affecting Government employees. A knowledge gained during his many years of active association as an officer of the local branch of the N.F.F.E. He will be sorely missed at the Assay Office and all join in wishing Mr. and Mrs. Graham a long and happy retirement.....Denver's counting department boys are on their toes since they discovered that their proficiency is being checked by ex-Mint employee HARRY BASKIND, who operates a counting machine at a local bank!.....



HALT! LOOK WHO'S HERE!

ANN AND A THOUSAND CENTS

.....Vic Harkin

From observation of the lassies at the Philadelphia Mint, and it is supposed they are no different than the ladies in any other office, a female about to embark on a two weeks' vacation inaugurates a planning program somewhat comparable to SHAEF mounting an invasion. Bank accounts must be scrutinized, charge accounts must be mobilized, wardrobes must be analyzed, timetables must be memorized and bosses must be mesmerized in anticipation of the little jaunt. All of which is in

sharp contrast to the antics of a blithe spirit named Ann Gladstone, out of Waybridge Surrey, England, who strolled into the Philadelphia Mint last month to 'kill a little time' while waiting for a bus.

This twenty-year old Pollyanna left England over a year ago with \$300 - an ardent desire to see North America, one small handbag and a brand of optimism surpassed only by the Kansas City baseball fans.

Ann admitted that she had absolutely no training or experience with which to earn a livelihood, although she did work as a 'clark' in the War Office for a short while. She felt, however, that she could always get a post doing something. Her first American stop was in Canada where she hired herself out "as a sort of governess for a couple of hellions." After seven months of this, during which her bankroll was slightly replenished, she felt the need of a little travel to soothe her jangled nerves. A trip that included New York, St. Augustine, Miami, New Orleans and Mexico City was completed before she decided that the recuperation was accomplished.



Miss Gladstone is fascinated by American courtrooms and often spent entire days in them during her trip, listening to cases. In Baltimore on one such occasion she accosted a District Attorney and in no uncertain terms told him that he should have won the case he had just lost! The D. A. agreed with her wholeheartedly and invited her to his office to discuss the case and to prove that she was right.

With this whimsical hobby, it might appear that our fair visitor had designs on following the law profession, but this she denies. The desire might crop out later, though; there have been a few pretty fair country lawyers in her family. Her grandfather, Lord Fitzgibbons, had been Lord Chief Justice of Ireland, while her great-grand-uncle was none other than William Ewart Gladstone, one of Britain's most famous Prime Ministers!!

At the time of her visit, Ann was en-route to Canada again, where she plans to try for a position as ski instructor at one of the winter resorts. Of course, she has no promises along these lines, or any experience, for that matter, but she feels she'll make out all right - she always did before.

After spending the winter in Canada, Ann will travel to California. She does not in-

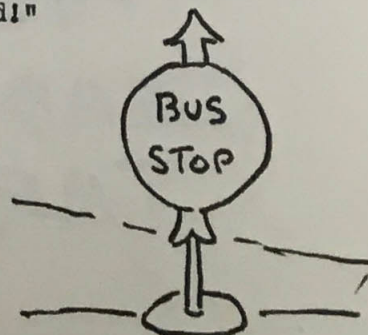
tend to return to England until Christmas of 1955 - she's going to have a party there on her 21st birthday.

As Ann left the Mint she carried all her belongings in one small "AirFlite" bag; she was 3,000 miles from home; she intended to travel another 10,000 miles before returning there and she was jobless!

"How much money do you have left, Ann?" asked Captain Karbowski.

"TEN DOLLARS," cried Ann, "I haven't a care in the world!"

And she didn't!



SLAVE GIRL MONEY OF IRELAND, with illustrations

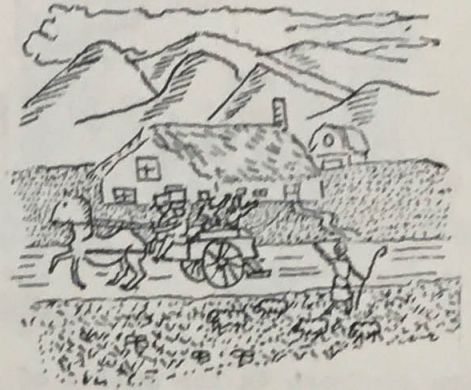
.....N'Yawk

The deep sense of love and appreciation which in ancient times the male native of Erin cherished for the charming, tranquil beauty of the scenery of his bit o' Heaven was probably exceeded only by his intense affection for money. The lakes of Killarney, the mountains of Wicklow, the Lee flowing through Cork and the Liffey through Dublin never failed to swell his breast with pride - but what made his head swim and his heart go pitter-patter was the sight of lovely money.

The favority monetary unit of ancient Ireland was the slave girl or bondmaid, known as the "kumal." The kumal was at the top of the monetary table of values and was equal to three cows; a cow was worth six heifers,

the heifer equalled four sheep, and smaller units were in the form

of silver and wheat. The table is mentioned in the Brehon Laws (ancient Laws of Ireland), Book of Senchus Mor. By the second century, A. D., the kumal became an abstract unit of account rather than a medium of exchange. Gold, iron and brass rings existed in Ireland for ages prior to our era. Evidences of advanced civilization were dug up in the form of gold plated brass rings intended to be counterfeitis of gold rings - exact in every detail except weight.



Down through the ages, the one thing about money that appears to be changeless is the determination of the distaff side of the family to control the purse strings. It is reported on good authority that Irish wives were wont to collect the old gent's pay every Saturday night so that after a tough week in the peat bogs, he was denied the pleasure of carrying home the bacon. Those, indeed, were times to try the souls of men!



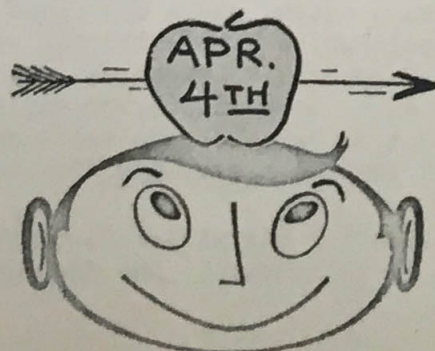
o-o-o

A coin bearing the image of St. Patrick was once legal tender in America. Back in 1690 there was a coin shortage in the Colonies, which were forbidden to mint their own money. The New Jersey Assembly authorized the circulation of a lot of Irish copper coins.



The farthing showed St. Patrick driving the snakes out of Ireland. On the reverse side was King David playing a harp. The inscriptions read in Latin "May the King Prosper," and "May the People be Quiet."

NEWS
DEADLINE
TARGET



M I N T C O N D I T I O N

T H E N E W S L E T T E R

No. 75-2

December 18, 1975

SEASON'S GREETINGS

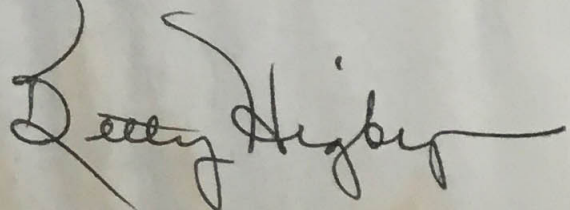
A H O L I D A Y M E S S A G E

To each of you, please accept my thanks for a job well done in 1975 and especially for the cooperation received during the Melting and Rolling phaseout period.

I know many of you made sacrifices both in your work and personal life so that the Mint could make the necessary conversion with a minimum number of problems.

I am indeed appreciative and thankful for the spirit of loyalty and dedication that exists in the Denver Mint.

Merry Christmas to you and yours, and best wishes for a happy and successful New Year.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Leroy Higby". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned at the bottom right of the page, below the typed message.

PRIVACY ACT

Federal personnel forms asking for personal information are now subject to Civil Service Commission regulations putting into effect requirements under the Privacy Act. In December 1974, President Ford signed into law the Privacy Act, which went into effect September 27, 1975. This Act is intended to provide certain safeguards for an individual against an invasion of personal privacy.

When personal information is sought by a Federal agency, the employee must be told --

- . The authority under which the information is sought and whether disclosure of it is mandatory or voluntary.
- . The principal purpose or uses for the information
- . The effects on the individual if he or she declines to provide the requested information.

Similarly, when asked to give their social security number, individuals must be told whether the disclosure is mandatory or voluntary, by which statutory authority the number is solicited, and what uses will be made of it.

The words "Privacy Act Notice" or a similar notation may appear to alert people to the protections required by the new regulations.

* * * * *

THE INCENTIVE AWARDS PROGRAM

The Incentive Awards Program at the Bureau of the Mint is a rewarding program for both employees and management. The ratio of cost-benefits to number of employees has been the highest in the Treasury Department over the past two years. During last year's Annual Treasury Ceremony sixteen employees were honored for their achievements during FY 1974.

A major reason for the success of the suggestion program is that production facilities are excellent areas for employees to make suggestions for improvement in machinery and programs. While the resulting tangible benefits are highly useful to government operations, there is a general concern regarding the disparity observed in the computation of the total savings.

The Bureau's Incentive Awards Committee recently met to discuss this problem and to establish guidelines to be followed by local Incentive Awards Officers and evaluators for computing tangible benefits. As a result of that meeting the following data will be included on all suggestions involving tangible benefits:

1. The cost of the present procedure including all the factors involved; that is, number of personnel, labor costs, and material costs.
2. The cost after implementation of the revised procedure; for example, such factors as cost of labor and materials or resulting increases in quality or quantity.

When the suggestion results in a reduction in the number of personnel, it should identify where the affected employees will be used.

3. The dates which were used to determine the 12-month savings.

Field installation evaluators and cost accountants will work together in the development of tangible benefits.

INCENTIVE AWARDS SINCE OCTOBER 1975

APPROVED SUGGESTIONS:

Frederick Jackson, Suggestion #1016, approved 9/5/75 (Permanent Numbers on Coining Tanks)

Conrad J. Boeding and Mike L. Jaramillo, #1057, approved 10/1/75, (Making Dollar Specials)

SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS:

Leeman E. Aksamit, approved 10/1/75 (for Special Act or Service)

Gerald R. Rapp, approved 12/5/75 (for Special Act or Service)

George J. Sophocles, approved 12/11/75 (for Special Act or Service)

Gilbert Olivas, approved 12/11/75 (for Special Act or Service)

David P. Berglund, approved 12/11/75 (for Special Act or Service)

Rex Martinez, approved 12/11/75 (for Special Act or Service)

Victor Mitchell, approved 12/11/75 (for Special Act or Service)

Joe E. Ornelas, approved 12/11/75 (for Special Act or Service)

QUALITY STEP INCREASE:

Ernesto Casias, approved 12/5/75

* * * * *

UPWARD MOBILITY UPDATE

The Upward Mobility Program for the Denver Mint is progressing. Several target positions have been chosen as Upward Mobility positions.

The position descriptions are being reviewed for accuracy and for applicability to training. The next step is to establish the bridge positions which lead after training to the target positions. These positions will be filled through merit promotions. Vacancies will be posted within the next several months. There is still time to fill out an Upward Mobility Survey Form and submit it to the Personnel Office. All permanent Mint employees in WG-6 and below and GS-7 and below are eligible.

OPEN SEASON HEALTH BENEFITS

Open Season on health benefits lasts until December 31st this year. If you want to enroll in a health plan, change plans or options, now is the time to do it. See the Personnel Office today. You will not have another opportunity to enroll or change health plans until November next year.

* * * * *

POSITION CLASSIFICATION

Several questions have come up on position classification and the annual position review. Mint Personnel Procedures Letter 71-1 delegates to the Superintendent of the Denver Mint the authority to classify all wage grade positions and general schedule positions through GS-11.

The Annual Position Review Schedule for Denver Mint positions is shown in Denver Mint Personnel Letter 74-2. The schedule calls for a complete review of all base positions each four years.

Those positions to be reviewed each year are determined by supervisors, previous reviews, and surveys by Treasury Department, Bureau of the Mint, and the Civil Service Commission. The position review consists of a review of the position description, a tour of the work area, and questions regarding the duties of the position. The information elicited from the review is typed into a report, a copy of which is sent to the division, one to the employee, and one retained in the Personnel Office. If the position needs to be re-described, the report states this.

Some supervisors have questioned the information reflected in the reports. It must be remembered that these reports provide information from the employee's viewpoint. The supervisor who is responsible for writing the position description may use the report as a guide, but is not obligated to do so.

After the position description has been written, it is forwarded to the Union for recommendations if the position is within the bargaining unit. The Personnel Office reviews the job description for grade and series determination. When it is completed, the immediate supervisor signs a statement that the duties are accurately described. This statement does not, however, mean that the supervisor agrees with the grade determination of the position.

The Division Chief is called upon at least once a year to determine which positions are accurately described. If the position description is outdated, the Division Chief should not certify that the position is currently and accurately described. A new position description should be submitted to the Personnel Office for review.

NEW EMPLOYEES SINCE OCTOBER 1975

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DIVISION</u>	<u>JOB TITLE</u>
Phillip W. Nipper	Accounting	EAM Operator
Charles H. Adams	Building & Mechanical	Boiler Plant Operator
Daniel A. Chavez	Building & Mechanical	Janitor
Dennis R. Kygar	Security	Guard
Stephen J. Manesiotis	Security	Guard
Creed Miller	Security	Guard
Glenn R. Osburn	Security	Guard
Henry Rainge	Security	Guard

RETIREMENTS SINCE OCTOBER 1975

Agatha M. Cook	Personnel	Personnel Management Specialist
Clarence E. Kendall	Coining	Counting & Reviewing Foreman (Asst. Foreman, Counting & Reviewing Branch)

* * * * *

HAVE AN EXTRA NICE "EXTRA" DAY OFF DECEMBER 26!

Employee Newsletters- March 1955- Dec 1975

UNIVERSITY MICROFILMS
SERIALS ACQUISITION
300 N ZEEB RD
ANN ARBOR MI 48106

